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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

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In his address at Lakewood President Fletcher, after speaking of the necessity of reclassifying libraries to keep abreast of the constantly-changing aspects and relations of different departments of knowledge, urges the librarian of the present not to burden his successor with a rigid and elaborate classification supposed to be good for a hundred years. The advice is good, but like much good advice it may be carried by those who take it farther than the adviser intended. It is not Mr. Fletcher, but a possible indiscreet pupil whom we address. About the meaning of epithets we have some doubts. If by "rigid" classification is meant what used to be called "fixed," in opposition to "movable," a classification in which books are assigned to an alcove and shelf instead of to a class, the advice is excellent. That system (very soon, let us hope, to be obsolete) the pupil cannot be too strongly cautioned against. And if by "elaborate" classification is meant one unnecessarily minute — one in which many divisions are made for theoretical reasons — because they exist in the subject, and not because they will serve any practical need of the student — the advice again is good. But here the pupil must be cautious. He must be very sure that the divisions which he proposes to ignore will not conduce to ready reference before he finally rejects them. The fact that there are few books to go in them is not a sufficient test; for it is often as helpful to have a small, well-defined group picked out from a large collection in which it is lost, as it is to separate two large groups.

AND let him not be too much afraid of burdening his successor. Whatever is useful now will have some use in the future. But what if it does not? Why should we refrain from classifying because our great-grandchildren or our grandchildren, or our children even, will not like our arrangement? We are not classifying for them, but for our present needs. We know that it helps us to have our books sorted out so that we can put our hands on any kind of them quickly. It may not suit our children so well. Let them make their own classification, which will not altogether suit their children. If we are to put off classing our books till science is certain and the arts unprogressive, we shall put it off forever, and deprive the world of one of the assistants to the progress of science and the arts. *Rusticus exspectat dum defluat amnis.*

THE moral to be drawn from the progress of science is not that we should not classify at all; not that we should not classify with reasonable minuteness, but that we should make our schemes as logical, as scientific as possible, make them on principles and not by the rule of thumb and prejudice; make them in accordance with the most advanced knowledge, and not according to the knowledge of a generation or two ago. At the best they will require alteration and addition here and there; but it will be longer before they require it if they are abreast of the science of the time when they are made; and they will require it less if they are made with an eye to the real relation of things so far as it can be discovered. In a classification made on principle there is always a suitable place for a new science; in a haphazard classification even the present sciences have not their suitable place.

IN another column we print the opinion of a number of the librarians of New York City on the best use which can be made of the \$2,000,000 which Mr. Tilden's executors have saved from the wreck of his will. It is a question which has received much quiet discussion ever since the decision of the Court of Appeals was known, and a wide diversion of opinion has been developed among those who have given the subject of New York libraries the most careful study. On the one side those in favor of making it a great reference library have pointed out that but two such libraries exist in New York — one, the Astor Library, which closes at 5 o'clock (and in summer even earlier), thus practically debarring an immense class of workers; and the second, the library of Columbia College, developed naturally largely for the university students, and soon to be removed so far up-town as to limit its use solely to them and to the neighborhood about the college grounds for many years to come. They thus argue, and with much force, that in reality New York is absolutely without a scholar's library which is in any sense adequate or "popular." On the contrary the other side maintain that the need for popular circulating libraries is much greater than the Mercantile, Apprentices', Free Circulating, the Young Men's Christian Association, and the other smaller libraries can supply, and argue that the money should be devoted to the building up of many small "popular" libraries scattered over the city.

that it is the plainer classes and the school-children to whom this money should be devoted.

HAD Mr. Tilden's original wish received legal sanction these two views would not have come in conflict, for the funds would have been ample for both purposes. As it is, with the amount now at the disposition of the trustees, there are few who will for a moment contend that both needs can be coped with. The fact that two such parties exists, indicate what any one, exclusive of these partisans, who has studied the subject at all, must acknowledge—that is, that both the scholars' and the circulating libraries of New York have developed very evenly in regard to each other. Both will compare in books and in use fairly with many cities in this country; both are wholly inadequate for a city of the size of New York. On general principles in a fund of this nature it is often well that a scholars' library should be favored, for libraries of this class are more excluded by their nature as objects of public taxation and must depend largely on private munificence for their origin and support. The popular circulating library, on the contrary, is becoming more and more a matter of municipal origin and support. Certainly a community which desires a free library to-day can obtain it with comparative ease. In time, we believe, such libraries will be as well recognized a feature of our municipal polity as the public schools, and whether New York is now aided or not by this fund, it will have a system of small libraries which shall place books within the reach of all. And the JOURNAL believes that the Tilden fund cannot, however used, be misapplied.

W. H. LOWDERMILK & Co., Washington, announce that they have assumed the publication of "Hickox's Monthly Catalogue of Government Publications," which they will complete up to date and issue regularly and promptly in the future. Mr. Hickox will edit the catalogue as heretofore, but all rights in the work have been purchased by the publishers. Up to this time the work has been prosecuted under many difficulties, and the pecuniary returns have been very inadequate, by reason of which facts it was not kept up with the regularity which its importance demanded. It is expected to issue early in July the first six numbers of 1892, under one cover, succeeding numbers to follow early in each month thereafter. As rapidly as the matter can be prepared, the back volumes will be completed and sent to subscribers. It is not expected that the

undertaking will prove a remunerative one, but it is hoped that there will be a return sufficient to repay the actual outlay of money. The work is of the utmost value to every person who has occasion to handle or consult the current publications of the government, and these publications are now so varied and comprehensive that persons interested in any branch of science or business must appreciate it.

Communications.

CLASSIFICATION.

FOR a long time I have not written about my struggles with the classification problem. This was not from lack of interest in the matter, but because I had vowed not to say anything about it until I had either adopted "Cutter" or finished something more to my taste. Being of Pennsylvania Dutch stock, and consequently stubborn, I hammered away on my scheme, until at last it is fit to test side-by-side with "Cutter." The test has now been made, and I am not sorry to say that "Cutter" has won. My classification was really not bad (pardon the egotism), and my notation was good in many ways. But neither of them is an *all-around* improvement. They are simply a little better in some ways and a good deal worse in others.

I do not regret the time and energy consumed. The disciplinary value of the work is worth what the fury cost me; and I can now appreciate the tremendous labor represented by cumulative classification—the strain upon knowledge, skill, and common sense, that Mr. Cutter has borne with a smile all these years.

Make any use of this confession you please.
HORACE KEPHART.

"PICTURESQUE SAN DIEGO."

SAN DIEGO (CAL.) P. L., April 28, 1892.

I RECEIVED a letter to-day asking me where "Picturesque San Diego" is to be purchased. It occurs to me that many libraries will find it valuable.

It is to be had of C. S. Hamilton, San Diego, at \$4 a copy. Mr. Gunn, the author, died some months ago, and his administrators have reduced the book from \$10 to \$4, in order to realize in the settlement of the estate. The book cost nearly \$10 in publication; it bears date 1887.

The photogravures of scenery are beautiful and the information on resources and industries is good, though not up to date fully. It is the best work on this locality.

LU YOUNKIN.

LIBRARY STATISTICS.

WHAT has become of the statistics of public libraries that we used to get in the Report of the Commissioners of Education? Will there be any report of libraries in the forthcoming reports for 1890? The Superintendent of the Census Reports writes me that he collected no statistics in relation thereto. Has the custom of collecting those reports fallen into a state of "innocuous desuetude"? W. H. JOHNSTON.

CONSIDERATIONS ON THE CARD CATALOG AND LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION.

By MISS EDITH E. CLARKE, *Newberry Library, Chicago.**"Mutuo ista fluit: et homines, dum docent, discunt."—Seneca.*

WHEN the master-workman has with large strokes carved out a statue, then comes the apprentice to polish and finish it. The master minds of the library profession have carved out the bold outlines of a plan for library construction. We have, in fact, two plans, apparently rivals, but in reality not so. They are only the two extremes of the arc of variation, which any plan must describe when applied. We have, then, the stack system, with its economy of room, its glass floors and walls, and its mechanical appliances for fetching a book from the remote recesses of the vast labyrinth. We have also the departmental system, the *maison de luxe* of the student, with its insulation against the spreading of fire, and its distribution of work among a numerous staff. Not to be enrolled among the candidates for a choice, but condemned, defunct as to use and application, there still exists among us the old alcove system, piled tier on tier above a central hall — heat, distance, and gathered din of noises in an ascending ratio.

These three systems* are generally characterized by their relation to one question, the first and most obvious problem of library construction, namely, how to store the books; books in stacks, books in separate rooms, or books all in sight in a great hall like "Ossa on Pelion piled." But there it another element to the live library, namely, the live librarian. In the dark ages, before the rising of the star of library science, to be sure, he was regarded as an incidental, an appendage, to be stowed away in the darkest corner, and even now is familiarly known in trustee circles as the "paid help."[†]

Having in these days achieved conscious existence, he proceeds to make his wants known after the manner of young scions of a hopeful race, and clamors for administration-rooms and construction adapted to his needs. This utterance of a want, unvoiced till now, I, self-consecrated priestess of an oracle yet dumb, and interpreter of the mutterings which arise in the dark grotto from the men's universe of librarians, now strive, though imperfectly, to deliver.

In general, when a librarian lays down the principles which must govern library construction, he utters some such dictum as this: "The

interior arrangement of rooms must be convenient and adapted to the uses of the library."

The most orderly and categorical statement^{*} I have met with, issuing from the lips of one who has done very much to introduce common sense and the needs of the worker into library construction, while it enumerated 5 counsels of perfection, still ignores, or, as should rather be said, leaves on one side as a detail to be worked out later, the question of the arrangement of the administration rooms. The weightier matters of the law have been settled; it remains for me to take tithe of mint and cummin in the question, what conditions does facility of administration impose upon library construction? or, how should the working-rooms of a library be arranged?

Popular education, the shortening of the hours of labor, with the change from hand work to machinery, the enormous increase in book production, and the multiplication of libraries are four things that have gone *pari passu* in the development of social conditions as we now find them. And hand-in-hand with this multiplication and rapid growth of libraries, a system of administration has grown up, unconsciously adapting itself to the necessities of the case. And here I must restrict my remarks to the United States, where all could start afresh, and development along the lines indicated has not been hampered or warped by survival of institutions from a time when modern conditions did not exist. The spirit of this development has been adaptability to rapid growth. This adaptability to rapid growth has been the argument also which has made capacity for extension such a factor in library architecture. The elements of this system of administration are the *card catalog*, *relative* as opposed to fixed shelf location, and the *unbound* shelf-list. The significance of these emphasized forms which these ordinary tools have come to adopt in modern library methods is their capability of "indefinite intercalation," which allows of infinite expansion, removal, contraction, fire, dispersal, or separation; in fact, any of the ordinary casualties or extraordinary modes of existence without adjustment of machinery or rearrangement of the collection.

The card catalog is now almost universal, at least for the staff if not for the public, as being the only form in which the book record can be kept complete to date and conveniently consulted; the location on shelves by subjects in their rela-

* See for examples the plans for the new Congressional Library at Washington; for the Newberry Library in Chicago; and the Peabody Inst. Library in Baltimore.

† Boston *Post*, Oct. 22, 1890.

* See L. J., 15; C. 107.

tive order allows of the shelf classification being kept in order even when the books are filling up the shelves with great rapidity; the unbound shelf-list, allowing insertion at any point, avoids that remarking and rearranging of the lists which a phenomenal growth under less well-considered management often entails. But of this triplicate of library appliances the greatest in size and the key to the whole is the card catalog. That is a stationary piece of furniture occupying an appreciable amount of floor room, has the greatest amount of labor expended on it, and that of the most expensive kind, and belongs alike to public and staff. Let this stand in our discussion, then, as the representative of the library tools.

The catalog, then, as the nucleus of that mysterious interior working of a library which the outsider finds it so hard to understand, the catalog we must consider in its relations to (1) the staff; (2) the books; (3) the readers. Here we have a second set of three as regards the working of the library as a whole, the 3 links in the chain by which the library performs its functions of generating, storing, and distributing its power. But one of these three stands in two relations, each of which must be considered separately. The books are to be distributed (1) for outside use; (2) for reference or interior use. We must therefore consider these 2 functions as separate members, and speak by metonymy of the members of library routine as (1) the books; (2) the circulating desk, or, because it is shorter, the charging desk; (3) the catalog, and (4) the reading-room. Of these 4 the only variable is the reading-room. This plays a different rôle in different libraries, supplementing interchanging and dividing its work with the charging desk. In the more common type of libraries, that, namely, which circulates its books, reserving its reference-books to be consulted in the building, all 4 of these elements appear as I have presented them. In a purely reference library the charging desk disappeared, forcing its functions on the reading-room, which serves all the purposes for which the public come to the library. Again, a type between the popular circulating and the purely reference library is the university and the society library, where the books are used largely in the building as a club-room or study centre. Here the relations of charging desk and reading-room become more complicated, as the duties of the latter are more crowded and various, while the former does not cease to exist.

Now having our *dramatis personae*, as it were, well in hand, it is perhaps time that I define more clearly the limits of application of my inquiry,

that we may have before us the stage and setting upon which the motive is to be worked out. And here I shall expose myself most openly to criticism of the carping kind unless it be understood that I classify only the mere temporary purpose of illustration, roughly and simply, to make more plain the application of my remarks.

First, then, there is the town library, averaging 10,000 volumes or over. Given a high desk standing guard over rows of bookcases behind and an open floor-space with tables in front, one librarian with a couple of assistants for odd hours, perhaps an emergency or work-desk in some corner, periodicals, possibly in an adjoining room, with special attendant, card catalog standing beside desk, accessible with equal ease to librarian and readers; added a *sine qua non*, a trustees' room, with perhaps some closets and anterooms, and we have the main features of the typical town library of class one. It may be seen to advantage, though not as a town library, in the handsome rooms of the Y. W. C. A. in New York City.

Secondly, we have the ordinary city library, whose prospective limit is not far from 100,000, though it may, under certain restrictions as to readers or functions, reach several times that size, and still come under class two. Situated in a community and under conditions which point to its being stationary to its type; it is this class that I have in my mind in all my discussion here. And their number is now becoming far from desplicable.

Beyond the limits of my consideration are class three—libraries whose growth and future are unrestricted, storehouses for posterity. These last, along with whatever active part they take in purveying ephemeral reading-matter, still more and more as their collections accumulate, and time strips them of their first and temporary interest, serve the student and man of research. Because of their size and clumsiness these must duplicate their card catalog, must have supplementary lists, and most advisably in course of time will resort to an auxiliary printing establishment for their catalog work instead of manuscript.

Class one is too simple and class three too complicated for our discussion; but it is in class two, in the exigencies of old buildings unadapted for their purpose, or in new constructions of limited floor-space, light, etc., that the question I have propounded looms up, a study to the librarian, who understands it; a pitfall to the architect, who does not know that the problem exists, and a snare to the trustee, who thinks he comprehends

the terms of the equation, but falls lamentably short of doing so.

Marshalling our 4 pieces now upon the board, and considering in detail the requirements of each one as regards the others, we simply reassert a fact often insisted on when we say that (1) the books must be convenient and accessible to every one in the library. They must be close to the charging desk—the distribution centre—near the reading-room, where they will also be wanted, and not far from the catalog and catalogers, who will draw upon the general collection for their working supplies, as well as upon their special library. I believe this desideratum is not generally ignored, or when the work-rooms are located inconveniently to the book-rooms, it is a slight to the work-rooms and not to the books. There is also much in the arrangement of books in their large divisions, placing them most conveniently to the point of greatest use; as bibliography near the reference collection which the catalogers use, fiction near the charging desk, etc. This is a different consideration from the arrangement of classes according to their natural and logical order, *e.g.*, language near literature, applied science near natural science; or their disposition according to their uses, as art books with tables and plenty of light, music-books in a separate room where an instrument may be used; but it is also worthy of thought.

Second: that (2) the charging desk, which is the point of contact of an instreaming and outgoing public with the books, must make the shortest possible connection with both, goes without saying. It must be as near the entrance as possible, at least widely and openly accessible from it, not thro study not work-rooms, but thro open hallways, avoiding staircases, if possible. As many visitors go no further, the ornament and magnificence of the building may well be massed here as the point of architectural display. That the *public* should have free ingress and egress commends itself to the most cursory thought; that equal facilities with the books—that other public with which it must effect a touch-and-go contact—are needed, will be conceded as soon as propounded. In its relations to the reading-room, which, as we have seen, is the reciprocal of the charging desk, its work increasing in proportion to the restrictions laid upon the charging desk's constituency, their juxtaposition is not so required. They serve a different clientage, distinct in their ends and methods if not in their personality, and may, as far as interconnection of their work goes, be located in different parts of the building. But their interdependence upon the catalog prevents this, as we shall see.

These most obvious relations, which to any one who has not given special attention to the subject, and to some who have but are not sufficiently acquainted with the details, seem to be the main if not the only points, are easily disposed of. But the hinge of the difficulty is with (3) the card catalog, if it is the only catalog.

No doubt it must stand side by side with the charging desk that he who runs may read in it, open of access, at the right hand of the crowd, with no rooms to traverse and in open view. Of course, it may be further within the building, the charging desk standing between it and the door that readers may in quiet record their titles or shelf numbers, and passing out obtain what they call for. The question is, Can the card catalog be so placed, and yet fulfil the other requirements laid upon it? In other words, How can a library manage to have one catalog serve both public and staff? or, Is there a necessity in library arrangement for duplicating the card catalog?

Here there is no question of whether a manuscript catalog commends itself to the public, of the crowding at the cases, and its failure as light literature for the dictionary shelf in the home circle. No one who has seen the little boys scarcely tall enough to see the clerk over the delivery desk in the Bruce Library in New York call their shelf numbers with equal ease and discretion from the card catalog there, will say much about the adaptability of the card catalog to the general public.

But can the catalog be readily accessible to the readers and at the same time used by the staff as constantly, the workers' other requirements of room, quiet, light, convenience to other departments not being thereby prejudiced? If it cannot it is a great blow to the card catalog; but thoughtfully arranged libraries, where this has been successfully accomplished, tell us that it can. Attention must, however, be given to it from the beginning of the plans.

What are the staff's requirements? Quiet, light, room, air, of course. They shelve a special library of their own working tools, and use for a secondary supply those encyclopedias and manuals which are on the shelves in the reading-room. And, as this use is reciprocal, the public and the staff using many of the same reference books, which are among the most expensive of the library stock and must be duplicated if they cannot be used in common, they must be adjoining the reading room. They must have easy access to the general collection. They should hardly have to pass thro the reading-room to reach it. This seems to locate them with the

reading-room on one side and the book-room on the other. There is still another side for the charging desk, without completely shutting it in from the light which may come from above or from the free side remaining. How can they locate the catalog so as to have it convenient for themselves and accessible to the public from the charging desk and the reading-room, especially convenient to the former in a circulating library, and to the latter in a university library? The public must not enter the administration-room, for that would cause disturbance. Shall it be after the plan of the University of Pennsylvania Library, where the staff, being placed in rooms parallel to the reading-room, the catalog is shelved as a sort of partition between, and the drawers can be drawn out and consulted from either side? Or shall it be simply so arranged that the rooms for the workers shall be next to the public represented by charging desk and reading-room, between them and the books in a measure, and then the catalog be placed in one room or another as other exigencies direct? Thus is it carried out in the Albright Memorial Library in Scranton, and in Mr. Ittner's* plan for a university library—an excellent arrangement. The new building at Yale, so far as the printed description can give data upon which to base a theoretical criticism, would have one more detail added to its excellence could the cataloging-room described as at the end of the circulating-room have been brought forward to adjoin the reading-room, and the librarian's office put also on that side of the building.†

But one thing above all others; do not put the catalogers on one floor, the charging desk and reading-room being on another. Do not force the workers to pass through the reading-room to reach the books. Do not put them on one side of the books, the public on the other, if you expect to give your public equal benefit with the staff in the completeness, fulness, and accuracy of the card catalog. Any one of these is as serious a defect as to have the books on a different floor from the circulating department: indeed, worse, because books can be brought by mechanical appliances, while the card catalog is not peripatetic and cannot be consulted by proxy.

The position and requirements of the reading-room have perhaps been sufficiently exploited in the previous discussion, so I will say no more about it than that where it has attained the full measure of its stature, as the guide of all the re-

search which centres in the library, it demands the fullest possible service from the catalog, makes all conceivable draughts upon the books, and calls at various times for the co-operation of every person in the library, including especially the catalogers, with their expert skill and their special tools. Its functions being so bound up with the other working departments, its location near them need not be further emphasized.

In conclusion I will add that there are certain rooms about which it makes not the slightest difference, as far as regards administration, where they are situated. One of these is the trustees' room—given a pleasant exposure, convenient size, heat, and light, and the trustees can settle comfortably to business either in cupola or basement, so far as the running of the library is concerned. The same with the museum or audience hall, if either exist; so long as it is accessible by hallways, without tramping thro work or store-rooms to reach it, its location counts for nothing in terms of library economy.

There are again certain rooms whose location is clearly indicated by their uses, the not sharing in those complex and mutually interdependent reciprocities of use which we have been considering. Such rooms are those for unpacking and collating. These are often conveniently accommodated in the basement, directly under the cataloging-rooms and connected with them by a lift.

"It is some saving, and a library is a business in which space and time furnish the real margin of profit, that a book entering passes without crossing its path, across the cataloger's desk, into the stack and out again at the distributing desk."* The librarian's room, where visitors led by business or curiosity are received and the book-agent held at bay, should not be far out of the way, secreted behind the other work-rooms nor down a dark hallway; but accessible alike to staff and public, and near enough to the staff to share their work and their tools, the room being, like the office, the medium between the work of the library and the outside world.

Of the many points remaining in the arrangement of library interiors my purpose is not to speak further, an exhaustive treatment of details whose permutations and combinations are inexhaustible, being neither practicable nor desirable. My object will have been served shall I have indicated clearly that the card catalog is the "crux of library management" and the central point of all discussion of convenience and utility in library construction.

* See LIB. JOUR., 15: 10-11.

† See LIB. JOUR., 14: 168.

* Talcott Williams in LIB. JOUR., 13: 241.

LIST OF BOOKS FOR MODEL LIBRARIES.

BY HIRAM M. STANLEY, *Lake Forest University Library.*

IN view of the recent discussion in the LIBRARY JOURNAL of model library lists, it occurs to me to suggest that the best results cannot come from the choice by one or many librarians and bibliographers unless this is carefully supplemented by judgment of the best specialists and teachers in the several departments. For history, for instance, let circulars be mailed to a dozen or more of our professors of history, like McMaster and C. K. Adams, and to writers like Schouler and John Fiske, asking for lists of the five, ten, etc., best and most serviceable books, ones which should be chosen by the average reader if no others can be read and bought. By following this method for all departments, and by using only the titles common to all the lists handed in in each line, truly model lists could be set forth for libraries of, say, 50, 100, 500, 1000, and 5000 volumes. As the product of collective human wisdom, such lists would be the most perfect attainable, and if priced, annotated, and printed in convenient form, they would be far more useful to the general reader and to most librarians than the bulky and rather imperfect "Best Books." These lists would be thoroughly practical and so quite unlike Sir John Lubbock's much mooted 100 best books. His scheme was an attempt to indicate the 100 greatest books of the world's literature, in which taste and personal experience would lead to the most diverse opinions; but a plan for model libraries should carefully avoid such a point of view.

I believe that a number of model libraries formed in the way I have suggested, and exhibited with the best library appliances at the Columbian Fair, would both greatly stimulate a general interest in good books and also enhance

the reputation of the librarian's art and profession.

As an illustration of my idea I append a list of 50 books which I should advise for an American who could not buy a larger library, or for the first books in any American's library:

- Webster, International Dictionary.
- Bartholomew, Library Atlas.
- Chambers' Encyclopædia, new ed.
- Bartlett, Familiar Quotations.
- Shakespeare.
- Milton.
- Tennyson.
- Browning, Selections.
- Longfellow, Poems.
- Lowell, Poems.
- American Poems, Scudder.
- Golden Treasury, Palgrave.
- Bacon, Essays.
- Carlyle, Sartor Resartus.
- Irving, Sketch-Book.
- Holmes, Autocrat of Breakfast-Table.
- Emerson, Essays.
- American Prose, Scudder.
- English Prose, Garnett.
- Swift, Gulliver's Travels.
- Defoe, Robinson Crusoe.
- Eliot, Adam Bede.
- Dickens, Pickwick Papers.
- Scott, Ivanhoe.
- Thackeray, Vanity Fair.
- Hawthorne, Marble Faun.
- Poe's Tales.
- Bible.
- Bunyan, Pilgrim's Progress.
- Kempis, Imitation of Christ.
- Farrar, Life of Christ.
- Homer, Pope.
- Plato's Republic, Vaughan.
- Dante, Longfellow.
- Goethe, Taylor.
- Molière, Selections.
- Hugo, Les Misérables.
- Cervantes, Don Quixote.
- Bryce, American Commonwealth.
- McMaster, History of United States.
- Green, Shorter History of England.
- Ebers, Egypt.
- Mahaffy, Pictures of Greece.
- Wey, Rome.
- Lübeck, History of Art.
- Cooke, New Chemistry.
- Langley, New Astronomy.
- Shaler, Story of the Earth.
- James, Shorter Psychology.
- Wallace, Darwinism.

THE PEABODY INSTITUTE SYSTEM OF PRESS MARKS.

BY JOHN PARKER, *Assistant Librarian.*

DURING the visit of the American Library Association to Baltimore, in May, I had the pleasure of explaining to some of the members the system of press-numbering in use at the Peabody Institute, and as it appeared to be different from the systems used elsewhere, perhaps a further account will be acceptable to the larger audience reached by the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

The Peabody Institute library hall is 84 feet long, 70 feet wide, and 61 feet high. On each of the long sides are seven alcoves, 18 feet long and 12 feet wide, and these alcoves rise in six stories,

the first story being nine feet high and all the others eight feet. In each alcove are placed two windows. The library of 110,000 volumes is arranged in these alcoves upon a system of classification based on that of Brunet. The stories are numbered from 1 to 6 and the alcoves from 1 to 7, and on the wall of every alcove is placed its proper number. An alcove contains ten presses, each having seven shelves, except those on the first story, which have eight; the presses are numbered from 1 to 10, and the shelves from 1 to 7 or 8, as the case may be. The books which are

placed in these alcoves have corresponding numbers, and no press-mark exceeds four figures. Thus a book marked 1436 (to be read one four three six) belongs on the first story, fourth alcove, third press, and sixth shelf, one marked 3504 belongs on the third story, fifth alcove, tenth press, and fourth shelf, etc. The same numbers are used for both sides of the library, and to distinguish between the east and west sides the sign - is placed before the press-marks of all books on the east or left-hand side of the hall; thus a book marked -2254 belongs on the second story, second alcove, fifth press, and fourth shelf, of the east side.

This system of numbering shows not only the place of a book in the library but its subject as well, or, in other words, the location number serves also as the class number. Thus, the third alcove on the west side is devoted to poetry, and the press-mark 1365 in a book not only denotes that its place is on the first story, third alcove, sixth press, and fifth shelf, but also that it is a book of English poetry; in like manner, the press mark 2354 shows both the location of the book and also that it is a book of German poetry. Dramatic poetry is in the third alcove of the third story, and it takes a very short time for the attendants to learn that every press-mark whose first two figures are 33 indicates a book on the drama. All the books on the same shelf have exactly the same press-mark and are placed according to height, ranging from left to right.

This system has been in operation since 1878, and has proved satisfactory in all respects, and will no doubt continue to do so in the future, when changes will have to be made in the location of some of the subjects. At present the

fifth and sixth stories are not shelved; but when this has been done and we wish to relieve some of the crowded alcoves on the lower stories, all that will be necessary will be to change the first figure of every press-mark, and the books will fit right into their new location. For instance, we now have music in a portion of one of the alcoves devoted to the Arts (-27). Should we wish to give it an alcove to itself on the sixth story we have only to erase the first figure of every press-mark, 2, and put in its place 6, and then all the books on music will go on precisely the same shelves in the new alcove, -67, as they were on in alcove -27; e.g., a book marked now -2754 would then be marked -6754.

When all of the presses have been filled with books we can still provide for the growth of the library by placing a case of double shelves in every alcove, dividing it into two equal parts, each six feet wide, with a window in each division. By modifying our system of press-marks it will adapt itself to these presses as readily as it has to the others. Instead of numbering the new presses we can give each of them a letter of the alphabet, and then the press-mark will consist of three figures and a letter instead of four figures; thus, 16b4 would indicate the first story, sixth alcove, b press of the middle division, and fourth shelf. What will happen when all of these new presses are full and there is no more room anywhere is a problem which does not now concern us. "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." I do not think that any one at present connected with the Peabody Institute will then be alive, and to solve enigmas so far in advance for our successors would be to leave them nothing to discover for themselves, a proceeding which they would doubtless resent.

THE LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY TRAINING-CLASS.

THE Library School HandBook for 1891-92 cannot fail to increase the librarian's realization of the disadvantage of having to draw "staff recruits" from the crude, untrained local supply, but it also suggests possibilities of his library affording the means of training as a school of library economy; and not only that, but by the diversity of its interests affording a good preparatory school for almost any profession. The performance of the duties in the various departments of a live library require education, quick, intelligent thinking, tact, address, patience, and a knowledge of general business forms. That the advantages of a library as an educational training school are realized is attested by the eagerness with which positions in libraries are sought. Especially attracted are these young women who, having completed a high-school

course, look about them for some means of utilizing the result of years of application.

In last November the circulation of books in this library had assumed such proportions that the entire staff of 13 people had to be called upon for service at the reference and delivery desks in order to properly wait upon the public, the library being open 12½ hours per day, entailing an absolute neglect of the work in the other departments. Funds were low, and if money was to be expended for additional help, the purchase of books would have to be suspended, and books we had to have, to meet the extraordinary demand made upon our already too limited resources.

The feasibility of a training-class was presented to the Board of Directors for consideration, and was finally adopted as possibly affording a

solution of the difficulty. Applicants having their names on file were notified that henceforth all additions to the regular staff of employees would be made from the ranks of the training-

class graduates, and a notice to the same effect was inserted in the daily papers. A regular form of application was prepared, which reads as follows:

[FORM I.]

No. 135, Nov. 91.

APPLICATION FOR POSITION AS LIBRARY PUPIL.

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY:

I hereby make application to be placed on the list for appointment as a pupil in the PUBLIC LIBRARY, subject to existing rules and any rules to be hereafter made by the Board of Directors, and I herewith furnish answers to the questions below, in my own handwriting.

QUESTIONS.

1. Give full name,
2. Residence (street and number),
3. How long have you resided in Los Angeles?
4. Place of birth,
5. Age,
6. Are you engaged in any occupation? Give particulars,
7. What school training and business experience, if any, have you had?
8. Have you a father living? If so, state where and in what business.
9. Have you a mother living?
10. Do you reside with your parents?
11. What is the condition of your general health?
12. Have you read the printed rules and regulations of the Library?
13. Have you any knowledge of languages?
14. Give names and addresses of at least two persons to whom you refer.

ANSWERS.

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Signature of Applicant,

Dated

Note: Applications must be from young women not under seventeen years of age, and actual residents of the city. They must agree to give three hours a day service for a period of at least six months, at the end of which time, upon passing an examination satisfactorily to the board, they will be placed upon the substitute list for paid employment as opportunity offers.

24 of these applications were filled out, and from that number 18 young women were notified to present themselves for examination. This examination, conducted by a committee of 3 from the Board of Directors, was an oral one, with the exception of an impromptu paper on "The Uses of a Public Library," to be written in 15 minutes. The questions consisted of selections from the entrance examination papers of the Library School, with the addition of a number of purely local character, pertaining to the system of this library, the idea being that no one sufficiently interested to desire to become a part of the institution would have failed to inform themselves to this extent of its characteristics.

Of the number examined 6 were accepted, and at once began their service. The time schedule was arranged so as to become part of and supplement that of the regular staff. Of the 6 pupils 2 were on duty 3 hours in the morning, two three hours in the afternoon, and two 3 hours in the evening, each set of 2 rotating weekly. In this way A. and B., who serve one week from 9 to 12 a.m. in the work-room, preparing books for the shelves, typewriting, etc., are on duty the next week from 2 to 5 p.m. at the delivery desk or in the reference-room, thus bringing each pupil in direct contact with all phases of the work. Being actual co-workers with the regular staff a certain degree of responsibility is awakened, which would

not be the case were the class work solely theoretical. Pupils are bound by the same rules which the regular staff observe, and all absence and tardiness must be accounted for.

No regular course of instruction had been arranged, the design being to allow each pupil to serve an apprenticeship to the heads of the various departments of work. The examination held at the end of the six months' service was to test the ability of the pupils as justifying further instruction, and was based upon questions used by the Library School for elementary work.

Of the 6 pupils examined 3 failed to attain the required number of credits, viz.: 350 out of a possible 500.

Two of the successful ones were appointed to \$20.00 full-day positions, and one who showed especial aptitude for cataloging was employed as cataloger's assistant four hours a day at \$10 per month.

The gain to the library by this plan is: first, 18 hours service per day; second, that future additions to the staff will have had systematic training at their own expense instead of that of the library; third, there is at all times a trained supply at command for substitute and special duty; fourth, the standard of qualification for library attendants is raised; fifth, the impossibility of employment being secured by solicitation or influence rendered thus apparent, the officers of

the library are protected from the annoyance of office-seekers. These advantages certainly afford ample compensation for the time of the person required to direct the work of the class.

Two classes have already been organized, and a third class began work on June 20, viz.: First class, Nov. 17, May 17, 1892. Second class, Feb. 1, Aug. 1, 1892. Third class, June 20, Dec. 20, 1892. The work for the third and subsequent classes is based on the following outline which, with the conditions governing the classes, will be issued in the form of a hand book, and will be mailed on application.

[Form A.]

FIRST TERM.

Accession. Acquisition.

Selecting and buying of books, use and comparative value of trade catalogues, publishers' lists, second-hand dealers.

Correspondence, typewriting, library handwriting, care of letter-book, order-book, letter file, donation-book.

Reception of books, checking of bills, collation, plating, pocketing, embossing, private marking, accessioning.

Binding. Repair.

Preparation of books for binder.

Instructions to binder.

Use of bindery-book.

Care and disposition of worn-out books.

Materials for binding; *i.e.*, style, durability, color.

Sewing; tight *vs.* loose backs.

Lettering.

Paper covers.

Temporary binders.

Restoring.

Mending.

Mailing.

Receiving periodicals, checking, covering, labelling.

Receiving newspapers, checking, filing.

Forwarding reports, bulletins, recording, acknowledging, filing.

1st class matter, local rates, foreign rates.

2d " " " " "

3d " " " " "

4th " " " " "

Government matter.

SECOND TERM.

Classification.

On shelves, in catalogues, systems of notation, figures, letters, symbols, combined, close *vs.* broad classification, co-ordination of subjects.

Reference.

Reference books, aids to readers.

Use of catalogues, indexes, encyclopedias, dictionaries, atlases, etc.

Use of special lists.

Use and comparative value of literary and book reviews.

THIRD TERM.

Loan.

Readers' qualifications.

User's age, residence, guarantees, references.

Index member,

" guarantor.

Home use.

No. of books, time, delinquencies, fines, sub-lending, restrictions, renewals, extra books, extra time, reservations, suspension of rules.

Charging systems.

Ledgers, cards, colors.

Call-slips, book-cards, reader's cards, notices.

Inter library loans.

Mechanical accessories.

Slip trays, cases, tills, stamps, etc.

Records. Lost books.

Overdue books.

Deposit blanks.

Index to current membership.

Branch libraries.

Delivery stations.

" to schools.

Shelf.

Arrangement, numbers, labels, sizes on shelves.

Fixed, relative locations.

Arrangement and preservation of public documents, pamphlets, papers, maps, music, etc.

Shelf lists. "

Stock-taking.

Stacks.

Alcoves.

Special rooms.

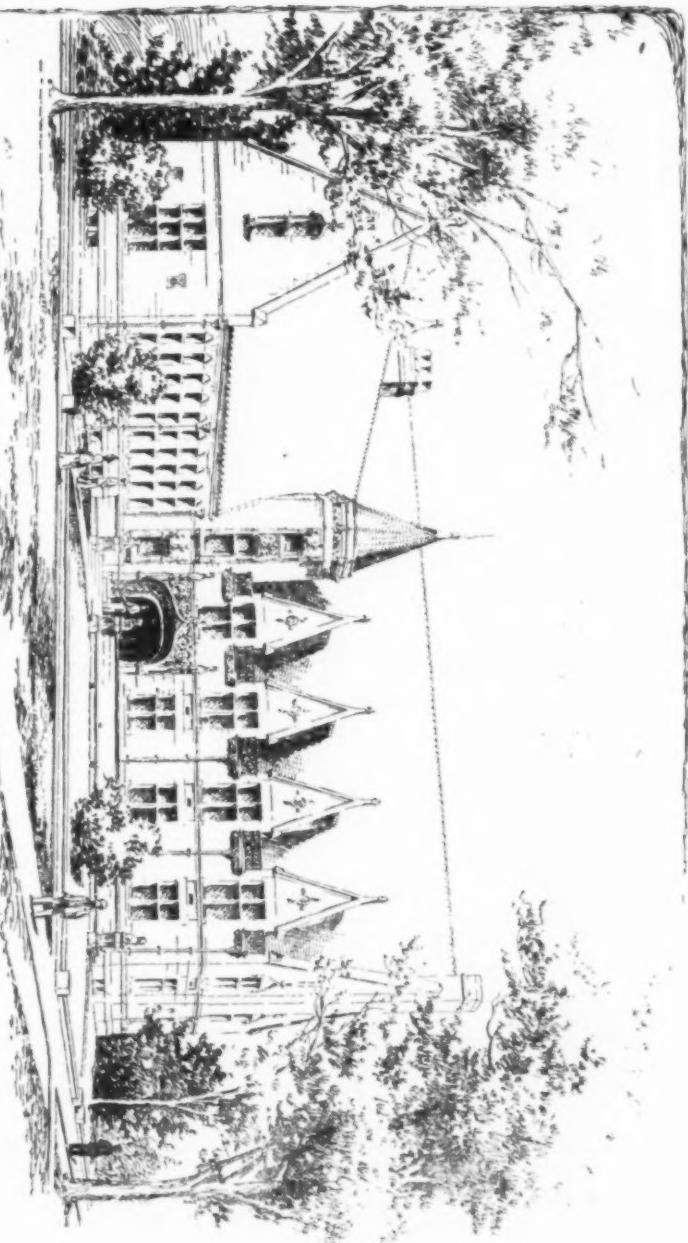
The success of the experiment has met the most sanguine expectations of the Board of Directors of this library, and confidence has been expressed that the results derived from this venture will be a direct benefit not only to the library and the library's patrons, but also to the young ladies of the classes, even should their future work not be in the library field.

THE ALBRIGHT MEMORIAL LIBRARY, SCRANTON, PA.

ABOUT a year ago the heirs of Joseph J. and Elizabeth Albright, late of Scranton, Pa., informed several of Scranton's prominent citizens that they would give to the city the site of the old Albright homestead for a free public library, and Mr. John Joseph Albright, one of the heirs now residing at Buffalo, N. Y., further stated that he would erect upon the lot a library building at a cost of \$70,000, which should, upon its completion, be known as the Albright Memorial Library, and turned over together with the lot to the City Councils.

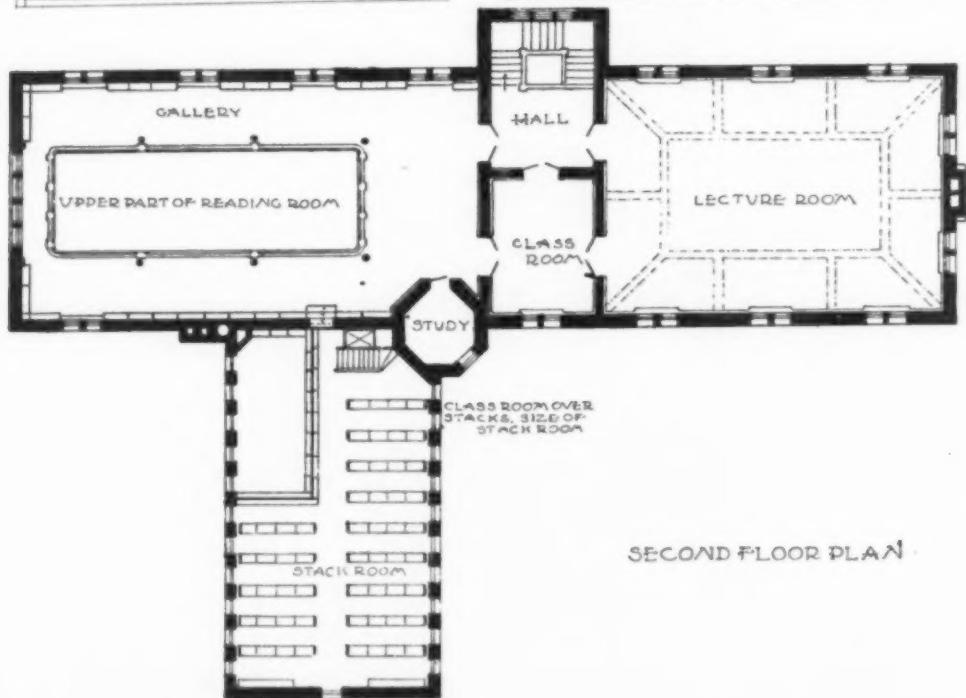
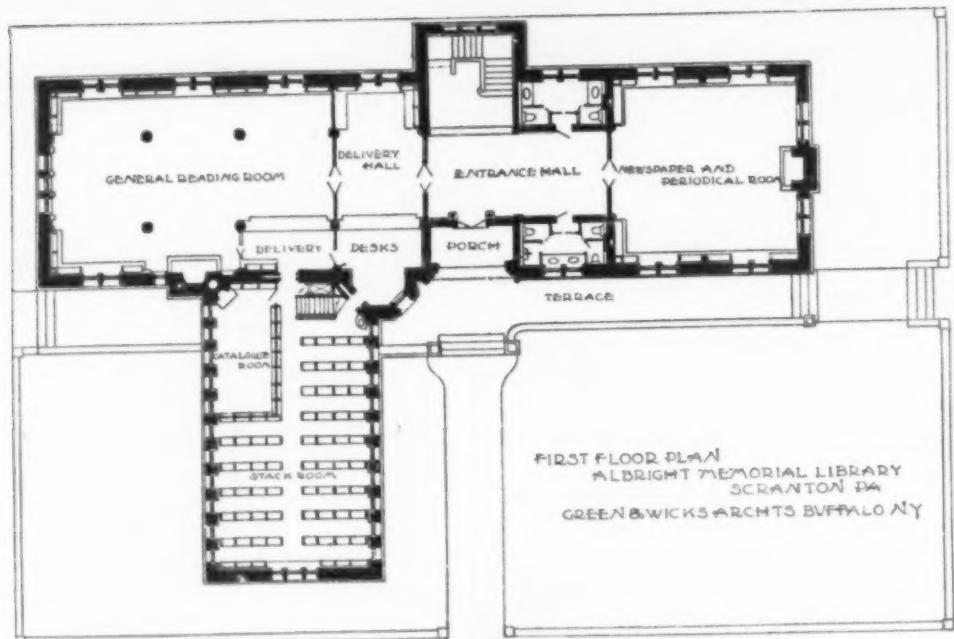
To secure the establishment of the library the Board of Trade at once started a subscription to purchase books. This subscription now amounts to a little over \$25,000, and about 6000 volumes have already been purchased. The Albright heirs immediately conveyed the property to W. T. Smith, H. Belin, Jr., and Hon. Alfred Hand, who, as trustees, were empowered to convey the property to the city of Scranton upon the condition that the Councils promise to give the library a reasonable maintenance and provide for a Board of Trustees to manage it properly.

It has been decided that the Board of Trustees



THE ALBRIGHT MEMORIAL LIBRARY, SCRANTON, PA.
Given and Used, Mrs. Anna Bernhard.

THE ALBRIGHT MEMORIAL LIBRARY.



shall have 16 members. This board now consists of the Mayor of the city, *ex-officio*, 5 clergymen from different denominations, 4 citizens to be appointed by the Mayor, 3 other citizens appointed by the Board of Trade, and 3 attorneys named by the Lackawanna County Courts, all of whom must be approved of by the City Councils.

The Albright heirs are Mr. John Joseph Albright, of Buffalo, N. Y.; Mrs. James Archbald, of Scranton; Mr. Henry C. Albright, of Syracuse, N. Y., and Mrs. R. J. Bennell, of this city. To Mr. J. J. Albright belongs the credit of having conceived the idea of erecting this beautiful institution for disseminating knowledge in memory of his parents, the late J. J. and Elizabeth Albright. The beautiful edifice on the site of the old homestead will be a lasting monument to two of Scranton's early and respected residents.

Mr. J. J. Albright and his wife resided in Scranton upward of 30 years, and during that time the former was prominently identified with all movements that would prove of a benefit to the city. He was first employed as General Coal Agent of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company, and later on was General Superintendent of the coal department of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, and was for many years President of the First National Bank.

J. J. Albright, who expends at least \$125,000 in erecting the building, is one of Buffalo's leading citizens.

E. B. Green and W. S. Wicks, members of the firm of Green & Wicks, doing business at 89 West Genesee Street, Buffalo, N. Y., prepared all plans for the Albright Memorial Library Building. They have been in business together during the past 15 years, and although they are comparatively young men they stand in the front rank in all classes of superior architectural work.

Mr. Wicks graduated from the Boston School of Technology and Mr. Green from Cornell University.

The architects endeavored to make the building complete, substantial, and pleasing to the librarian and public alike, and a model of its kind. Before beginning work on the plans Mr. Green interviewed Mr. Melvil Dewey, librarian of New York State, and Mr. Learned, of the Buffalo Public Library. From these gentlemen he obtained many practical points of much value. Then, in company with Mr. Albright, he visited almost every librarian of prominence in the country. Since Mr. Carr was appointed librarian here he has suggested some valuable changes for the greater convenience of both library employees and patrons, which have been cheerfully carried out by the architects.

The building, which is simple and conventional throughout, has been constructed on the French Renaissance style. It is of Indiana blue limestone. Among other noticeable features are the twelve dormers. In each of these will be a panel elaborately carved with symbols of historical interest, representing the crests or book-marks used by the first printers. The lights to be placed in the 200 windows will be leaded in patterns also handed down from that old period.

The transom of each will contain a cartouch of the same symbolic signatures of the old printers in stained glass. The building is surrounded by a large court, offering every opportunity for beautiful foliage effects, particularly at the corner.

There will be much carving about the building, particularly the main doorway at the intersection of the building and wing. The ceiling of the porch will be mosaic, and elaborately wrought iron gates will be placed directly underneath the arch. At one side of the porch will be placed a bronze memorial tablet. The interior of the building will be finished throughout in white quarter-cut oak of the finest quality, with marble and other trimmings and mosaic floors. It will be illuminated by electricity, and heated by steam.

The floor of the entrance hall, measuring 16 x 32 feet, will be of marble mosaic. Directly opposite the main entrance will be the staircase of oak leading to the second story, on which a great deal of carving will be done. To the right and left of the entrance hall will be two laboratories finished entirely in marble. Passing to the right you enter the newspaper and periodical room, which is 32 feet square. The most noticeable feature as you enter this department will be the oak and marble fireplace at the end of the room, which will also be prettily carved. The papers and periodicals will be upon tables, and the entire wall-space will be fitted up with cases for them. To the left from the entrance hall is the delivery hall, 16 x 32 feet.

The general reading-room is 32 x 48 feet, and is surrounded by bookcases. This department is two stories high, having a balcony at the second story level which will also be surrounded with cases for books of reference. In the centre of the room will be a large marble fireplace. The rooms on the first floor will be divided by plate-glass screens in order to cut off the noise and air, and at the same time allow you to see the entire length of the building. The wing will be known as the stack-room, situated in one corner of which will be the librarian's quarters. Here the cataloguing will be done. The stack-room extends from the basement to the roof, making five stories, each 7 feet 2 inches high. The floors of each of these rooms will be of half-inch glass. Each floor will accommodate 20 stacks or bookcases, and between each stack is a window in order to afford ample light. An electric elevator will be placed in this portion of the building in order to carry the books up and down.

Access to the second floor of the library is gained by the staircase opposite the main entrance. At the landing will be a large stained-glass window. The hallway on the second floor will have access to the class-room, 16 x 20 feet, and the lecture-room, measuring 32 x 48 feet. The latter will be fitted up as a hall for University Extension and other work of a literary nature. It will comfortably seat 150 persons. The staircase will also give entrance to the balcony of the general reading room. On this story the tower forms a private study-room. The six columns supporting the roof are to be of Mycenian marble.

It will probably be ready for public inspection by midsummer, and will open with about 12,000 volumes, with Mr. Henry J. Carr as librarian. The capacity of the building will be 75,000 volumes. Competent judges declare that it will be the best adapted to its purpose and most convenient for the public at large of any building now erected. The cost of the structure alone will be at least \$125,000, almost twice the limit first given by Mr. Albright, but the latter gentleman has already provided for the additional expense with such securities as will insure its completion beyond any contingency.

THE USE OF THE TILDEN LIBRARY FUND.

From the Mail and Express.

SINCE the settlement of the Tilden will contest, from which it will be possible for the trustees to carry out Mr. Tilden's desire to found a public library for the people, the question has arisen as to the best way this bequest can be utilized. It has been suggested that one large library be established, again that there should be a large building with branches throughout the city, and again that only sub-stations for the distribution of books be established in different parts of the city.

A *Mail and Express* man asked some of the most eminent librarians in this city what they considered the best way in which to carry out Mr. Tilden's idea and at the same time secure the greatest advantages for the city. The consensus of opinion was that a free library of easy access would fill a gap long felt. No plans have as yet been adopted for the library, but some are now being prepared, and with \$2,000,000 it is probable that the Tilden Library will within a few years be established.

Mr. Andrew H. Green, one of the trustees of the Tilden Library, said: "The plan of the Tilden Library has not as yet been adopted by the trustees. It will, however, be as near to that desired by the Governor as it is possible to have it, and will conform to his wishes. It will probably consist of a large central building for the classification arrangements and storage of books, and amply provided with the facilities for the distribution of them. This latter will be done by means of branches throughout the city, thus being able to put books in the hands of those who desire to use them."

"A plan is now being arranged whereby this can be done. Special facilities will also be made for scientific purposes and facilities arranged for original research. It is intended not only to instruct the people in what has been recorded, but also to provide facilities for original work. The trustees will not be able to carry out Mr. Tilden's idea entirely, as he left \$6,000,000 for the purpose. Through the various processes through which the will has passed only \$2,000,000 will be available for the great library."

Mr. Frederick Saunders, librarian of the Astor Library, when asked as to the needs of the city in this line, said:

"I would not venture an opinion as to what the Tilden Library should be, as I don't know

how their affairs are arranged. There are three kinds of libraries in this city: The public school library, the free circulating library and the Astor Library, which is designed for the use of scholars and is non-lending. The idea of having branches all over the city is not a new one, but has been tried with more or less success in different parts of the country. However, there is plenty of room for such a library in this city as Mr. Tilden desired."

Jacob Schwartz, librarian of the Apprentices' Library, said: "I think that in an institution such as the Tilden Library will be there should be branches. My experience has been that unless the books are within walking distance the people will not go to get them. Most of our readers live within a radius of one mile of the library. The great advantage of branches over stations is that at a branch the book can be secured, while at a sub-station the order for the book wanted has to be left and another call is necessary. The reason why people don't want to pay car fare is that the great majority read fiction, and that class of matter can be bought for 10 or 15 cents, which would be spent for car fare in getting and returning the book."

"The central building, in my opinion, ought to be arranged on the order of the Boston Public Library. There are two departments, one for the public and the other for scholars. There is no place in this city for scholars. The Astor Library closes at 4 o'clock. There is no time for professional men to pursue their studies except after that hour. Using the Astor Library, all their notes have to be carried there, which is an inconvenience. The Astor Library would cover the ground if they allowed books to be taken out. It would be a good idea if the proposed Tilden Library would allow a person to open two accounts, one with each of the departments. I think the Tilden Library can be made of great advantage and usefulness to the city."

William T. Peoples, librarian of the Mercantile Library, said: "As to what the Tilden Library should be I don't care to say, as I am not concerned in it; but according to Mr. Tilden's idea I should say that it would have to be managed on some plan by which the masses of the people could be the more easily reached than by any plan now in use in this city. Mr. Tilden wanted to provide reading matter for the people. To do this it seems to me the best plan would be to establish branches throughout the thickly populated portions of the city, with one central building for reference and the branches for the easy distribution of books. I think the branch system is by all odds the best."

"Distributing stations have been tried, and as far as I know, have not given satisfaction. The people want to see the books before they know what they want to read, and for that reason the stations are not satisfactory. To put the current literature before the people one needs a place in which they constantly have the opportunity to look over the books, and this could not be done in one central building alone. The branches must contain enough books for use, because if a person does not get a book when it is applied for his ardor is apt to cool and the book is likely to go unread."

THE PRATT INSTITUTE.

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY AND LIBRARY SCHOOL.
From the Annual Catalogue.

THE work of the Institute in its various departments is supplemented by a well-selected and rapidly-growing library. There are, at present, about 34,000 volumes upon the shelves, special pains having been taken to comprise in this number the best literature on all subjects. These volumes include the nucleus of a collection of French and German books, now numbering about 2000 of each, which are rapidly being prepared for circulation and are meeting an appreciative demand.

It was at first intended to establish a library solely for the use of members of the Institute, and to confine its selections chiefly to the fine and useful arts. It was afterwards decided, however, that the library should have a much wider scope than this, and that, in order that its influence might be as far-reaching as possible, it should be general in character, fairly representing the following classes: bibliography, philosophy, religion, sociology, philology, science, useful arts, fine arts, literature, biography, history, travels. The demands upon it are unusually great, since it combines two ideas—that of a free reference-library designed as a work-room for the public, and that of a free circulating library from which all classes may draw good material for study and entertainment. Its privileges are extended free of charge, children under fourteen years of age being restricted to books specified in the children's list.

The directors of the departments of the Institute aim to supplement their instruction by recommending to students lines of reading bearing upon the subject in hand, and to encourage them as much as possible to make free use of the library.

Many of the books most frequently needed for reference are shelved in the rooms of the various departments of the Institute, so as to be easily available. These books are also duplicated in the library for the use of the public.

The reading-room connected with the library is large, comfortable, and well-lighted. Periodicals and newspapers are kept on file for the accommodation of readers. Over two hundred of the leading American, English, French, and German magazines and periodicals are represented.

The reference department, comprising dictionaries, encyclopedias, etc., to the number at present of about eight hundred, is so arranged that those wishing to consult these books have free access to the shelves. It is especially desired that this department should be useful and helpful; and, to that end, it has been put in charge of assistants competent to judiciously guide the investigator in the best method of looking up a subject, and to aid him by placing the resources of the library at his disposal. To facilitate the accomplishment of this object, the sets of periodicals in the library to which reference is made in "Poole's Index," and all government publications, home and foreign, are placed in the reference-room so as to be readily accessible to the public.

The reference-room is open every week-day evening and an assistant is in charge. Artisans and others who may wish to read on subjects of particular interest to them, and who have only evening hours for the purpose, are especially welcome to this department, which is strong in technical reference-books.

In connection with the regular work of the Institute classes, informal talks are given to the students, explaining to them the general scheme of classification adopted in the Library, the use of the index to this classification, the plan of the card catalogue, and the way to consult it, and showing them by practical illustrations the method of looking up subjects, so that they may be in some degree fitted to undertake their investigations in a self-reliant spirit and with a knowledge of the materials to be employed. To this end will be given also descriptions of the prominent books of reference, enabling students to become familiar with their appearance and the general character of their contents, and giving them some idea of the comparative value, as authorities, of the various atlases, encyclopedias, dictionaries, and other works which they will have occasion to consult.

Special lists of books on various topics connected with class-room work are prepared from time to time, and bulletined where they may be of service to those who feel inclined to further pursue the subjects they are studying.

Pupils of the public and private schools of the city have made free use of the library, and special efforts have been made by those in charge of the reference department, to render assistance in looking up matter pertaining to subjects assigned for essays, or to any topics that arise in connection with the work of students.

Special privileges have been granted to teachers by which they are entitled to one volume (not fiction) in addition to the one already allowed, and to six books for school-room use. It has also been thought advisable to permit persons staying in the city for a month or longer to draw books, provided they can furnish Brooklyn guarantors.

LIBRARY CLASSES.

In June, 1890, in response to appeals for instruction, a class in cataloguing was started, followed in October by a class in library economy. In these no comparative study of methods is undertaken, the only ones taught being those in use in this library.

The cataloguing class is distinct from the training-class, but as they meet on different days both branches may be included in the winter's course by students who wish to take both. Instruction in cataloguing is given on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday morning, from 11 to 12, with a practice hour from 12 to 1; and in library economy on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday morning, from 9 to 1. The hours from 2 to 4 on Saturday afternoon will be occupied by typewriting lessons for both cataloguing and training classes. In addition to the cataloguing, the class in that branch has several lessons each in accession-work, shelf-listing, and classification, all given by a member of the library staff. The instruction in library

economy, also in charge of members of the staff, covers the following subjects:

Registration of borrowers.	Stock-taking.
Order department work.	Binding and rebinding.
Accession-work.	English literature.
Classification.	American literature.
Finding-list rules.	English composition.
Alphabetizing.	Reference work.
Shelf-listing.	Bibliography.
Mechanical preparation of books for the shelves.	Care of statistics.
	Typewriting.
	Practical charging-system work.

Entrance examinations for the library classes will be given September 15, 1892; from 9 to 12 a.m. for the cataloguing class, and from 2 to 5 p.m. for the training class.

Some of the pupils of the past year have had opportunities to put their training to practical test, and have taken positions in other libraries.

The classes in English and American literature, mentioned in the training-class course, are open to the public. Talks are given on the history of literature, and lists of collateral reading are supplied to the class. The books referred to in these lists are kept in the reference-room, in a special case, for a reasonable length of time, and treated as reference-books. It is hoped that it may be practicable to repeat these courses to evening classes the coming winter, as there has been a considerable demand for such lessons from persons not able to attend day classes.

Classes in library training, reference work, and cataloguing begin in October, and the class in literature in November. Each course covers a period of six months. Applicants for these courses must present their application blanks at least one month in advance.

A series of talks to teachers on reference work is planned for the coming winter, and co-operation with the teachers of the various city schools is desired.

Authors or scholars engaged in special lines of literary work may have added privileges granted them, to a reasonable extent, if due notice of their needs be sent to the librarian.

THE HARTFORD (CONN.) LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

From Annual Report.

"THE history of the association for the first eight months of the year is very largely the history of an effort to run a library under difficulties. The history of the remaining four months is very largely the history of the moving of the library, also under difficulties, and putting the same in condition for public use.

"Soon after the annual meeting in June last we were notified that the contractors were ready to tear away the east wall of the building, and that they would need ten feet of the east end of the library and reading room. Our books were crowded together in rough cases, and a part of the space used by our subscribers in front of the desk was taken therefrom. The bound copies of our newspapers, government documents, etc., were kindly given shelter by the Historical Society. The miscellaneous collection of newspapers, &c., were sorted over, the valuable part moved to

the library gallery, and the room itself made a part of the reading-room. In this way we were able to provide fairly well for our subscribers, though of course we had no space for reference or other work. We ran along this way until the advent of cold weather, when it was found that, by reason of the substitution of a thin board partition for the east wall, and the removal of one radiator, it was impossible to keep the temperature of the library above sixty degrees, and that it was unsafe for both our employees and the public. The library was kept open, however, one hour during the afternoon and one hour during the evening for the purpose of receiving and returning books. The reading-room was kept open during the usual hours day and evening.

"About the 1st of March it became necessary to make arrangements for moving from our old to the new quarters. Notice was given that no books would be given out after March 10, and that all books be returned on or before March 15. It is no small thing under the most favorable circumstances to properly move a library of 35,000 volumes, and there were in our case many and special obstacles in the way. The work, however, has been accomplished. The books were moved on trucks up an inclined plane, through an opening in the wall into the old picture gallery, and from there wheeled into their new home. They are now, except about 300 volumes which are in the hands of the binders, all in their proper places on the shelves ready for use. As soon as the street and entrance are passable and the facilities for lighting are in, we shall be prepared to open the library to our subscribers. The reading-room, which has been kept open all the time, was moved early in May to its present convenient quarters on Haynes Street, where it will remain until the new reading-room is ready for occupancy. In addition to the physical work of moving the library a great deal of other work was necessitated. A new book-plate, card pocket, and label had to be prepared for every book. This for 35,000 volumes was no small task. The volumes sent to the binders had also to be listed. This alone occupied one assistant constantly for three months. Much work yet remains to be done, which could be done more conveniently if the library were to remain closed. We feel, however, as we have for the past year, that our patrons should have the utmost benefit of the library, and therefore it will be open to our subscribers as soon as possible, and the remaining work will be done as best it can be from time to time.

"Much work has been done during the year looking to the increased use and convenience of the library. The books for children have been renumbered, and a classified list of them is now ready to be printed in the next bulletin as soon as the library is opened. Novels have been arranged under authors in alphabetical order instead of under titles as heretofore. The biographies also are in alphabetical order under subjects, except where they form so important a part of the history of the period that they naturally belong to it. The Webster collection, which contains many valuable pamphlets illustrating United States history from 1800 to 1830, has been placed with that history. *Niles' Register*, the diplomatic

ic correspondence of the Revolution, and the letters and speeches of American statesmen, have also been placed in the same class. Books relating to the Indians and the relation of the government to them have been placed so they may be conveniently got at. Books relating to student life and college customs have been placed in a group of their own. The books in relation to capital and labor, the improvement of social conditions, the administration of charities and kindred subjects, have also been placed in such positions as will be convenient for the public and ourselves. The library is in process of classification under the Dewey system, with Cutter author-marks for certain classes.

"From the Treasurer's report it will appear that the receipts were: From the library, \$318.62, and from the income from invested funds, \$2367.81. The total disbursements were \$5304.79, leaving a deficiency for the year of \$2618.36, which has been made up to us by the Athenaeum trustees. Our permanent fund amounts now to \$34,225 at par value, and at the present market value to substantially \$50,000. It is all judiciously and safely invested. The income therefrom for the coming year will vary but little from \$2500.

"Inquiries as to when the library will become free continue to increase in number and force. We regret that we cannot give a definite answer to these inquiries. The matter is entirely beyond our control and exclusively within that of the Athenaeum trustees. We are informed and the fact is evident, that the library cannot be made free until the repairs of the building are completed. Appearances plainly indicate that this will consume at least all the summer and the coming autumn. It is, moreover, entirely clear to us that, when the library does become free, we shall not be able, with the means at our command, to do all that we would like, or all that ought to be done. There will be the necessity for additional books, many duplicates, increased expenses for binding; and for additional help. This cannot be expected with the income in hand or in sight. The most we can expect to do is to make our present library free, and to serve the public as best we can. We believe that a tax should be laid by the city each year sufficient, when added to the other funds available, to give to the people of Hartford a thoroughly good and adequate free public library. We believe it would be money well expended, and in the long run true economy. The young man who has acquired the reading habit, except in very rare instances, becomes neither a loafer, a drunkard, or a charge upon the town. A tax for the purpose of supporting a free library is in the same line as the tax for the support of the public schools and would, to our thinking, attract people to rather than repel them from our city."

NOVEL-READING.

BY SIR THEODORE MARTIN.

At the annual concert in aid of the funds of the Llangollen Public Library the chairman, Sir Theodore Martin, to whose influence the estab-

lishment of the library is chiefly due, said: "The books most read have been works of fiction. The total number of other works read is only 811, while 2492 volumes of novels have found their way into the hands of readers. Most of the libraries, I believe, tell the same tale; but if we are to look upon this as likely to become the permanent average, the disproportion is not wholly satisfactory. In our case it is no doubt partially explained by the extent to which our library has been used by people making a holiday stay among us. It is only natural that they should turn to works of imagination to beguile the few hours they have to spare from their rambles in our beautiful scenery, leaving the more substantial literary fare to the long evenings at their quiet homes. Far be it from me to protest against a reasonable indulgence in the delights of good novels and romances. If for nothing else, they are most valuable as widening the sphere of our sympathies by taking us into scenes and enlisting our interest in characters beyond the routine of our every-day lives. When these are drawn by a master-hand we rise from a good novel with our affections touched, our powers of observation quickened, our minds made alive to possibilities of purpose or of conduct in ourselves of which we were perhaps not before conscious, and which set us thinking as to what our lives have been or may be. Who is there who has risen from reading a fine work of fiction without feeling as if he had been living among men and women with whom he would have been delighted to have been brought into contact, and from contact with whom he would have learned something that would influence his actual life and probably mould his character in the days to come? It is much, in my opinion, that our library has put within the reach of every person in our neighborhood the opportunity of growing familiar with the personages who make the interest and the charm of the works of our great novelists. Let them acquire in this way a taste for reading, and we may reasonably hope that they will not be content to dwell forever in the regions of romance, but may be led into studies which require continuous and somewhat laborious attention, either in natural history, biography, poetry or science. Some of you may remember how Sir Nathaniel in Shakespeare's 'Love's labor's lost' humorously describes a character in that play, 'He hath never fed of the dainties that are bred in a book. He hath not eaten paper, as it were; he hath not drunk ink; his intellect is not replenished.' Sir Nathaniel meant more by 'the dainties that are bred in a book' than such literary sugar-plums as tales and romances. But let any young man or woman once thoroughly appreciate the fact that the dainties that are to be found in books may help them in the formation of a worthy character and leave a taste upon the palate which never palls, and the charms and the infinite preciousness of good literature will open upon their eyes. They will come in time to understand all the force of Milton's noble saying — 'A good book is the precious life-blood of a master-spirit, embalmed and treasured up on purpose to a life beyond life.' It is highly gratifying to know that it is the best works of fiction that have been most in

demand in our library. Scott, Bulwer, Thackeray, Dickens, George Eliot, the Brontés, Blackmore, Besant, Kingsley, Mrs. Gaskell, Mrs. Oliphant, Edna Lyall and Stevenson are, as rightly should be, the first favorites. But, strangely, many of the finest of the Scott novels remain comparatively unread, such as 'Rob Roy,' 'Guy Mannering,' 'Old Mortality,' 'The fortunes of Nigel,' 'The fair maid of Perth,' 'The talisman,' and others, while there is a run upon the 'Heart of Midlothian,' 'Ivanhoe' and 'Kenilworth.' It is a pity, too, that of Bulwer's novels 'The Caxtons' should be overlooked, and 'Kenelm Chillingly,' an altogether delightful book, full of the ripe experience of a long life, and the love-story in it touched with infinite delicacy. Then how comes it that Dickens' 'Martin Chuzzlewit' finds few readers, and George Eliot's 'Scenes from clerical life,' and her exquisite 'Silas Marner'? I mention these to show to those whom it may concern that there are book dainties to be found in our library far beyond any that the prolific press of the day can give them. The times, we all know, are not favorable for quiet study. 'The world' — an old complaint — 'is too much with us,' and the multiplicity of journals and ephemeral publications of all kinds that force themselves upon the attention of the young, excellent as many of them are in their way, are, by their fragmentary and miscellaneous nature, not well fitted to give that education to the mind and heart and to instil those elements of a strong character without which the teaching of either elementary or intermediate schools is as naught. On the contrary, they emasculate the mind and fritter away the irrevocable hours that should be more worthily employed. It was a wise saying of an ancient writer that wisdom is 'to read not many books, but to make a good choice and in them to read much.' What I should like to see, when I next examine the records of our library, would be that the young men and women who resort to it mix their reading of lighter works, some with books of science, in which the marvels of earth and sea and heaven shall be brought home to them — some with biographies of great and good men, which in the trite language of Longfellow may remind them they 'should lead a life sublime' — some with history, in which they may see why nations have risen to greatness, why they have degenerated into decay, and learn how difficult are the problems with which those who are entrusted with the charge of a nation's welfare have to grapple — some with natural history, which will make every object that lies around them in field and river, in woodland and mountain, teem with interest — and some with books of travel, in which, without stirring from their fireside, they may explore well-nigh every region under the sun. Our library has many books that are well fitted to develop and cultivate such tastes as these; and surely, if the young could form the faintest idea of the enjoyment and the elevation of the interests of life that would come to them from pursuing such studies as these, they would unhesitatingly devote to them some portion of the hours which otherwise, when they are past, will leave no record behind on which they can look back with satisfaction."

THE LIBRARY FUTURE OF NEW ORLEANS.

BY OLIVE OTIS.

From the Louisiana Review, May 11.

In a year or two Tulane University will abandon its buildings and will remove to the new structure that will be erected on St. Charles Avenue. Naturally its library will also find room in the new quarters, and the university will be compelled to relinquish its control of the Fisk Free Library, which is the property of the city. The City Council will then be forced to provide rooms and a librarian for the Fisk Free Library or give it away altogether, which I doubt its legal ability to do.

Thus the city of New Orleans will find itself in possession of two public libraries — the Fisk Free Library and the City Hall Library. The latter was formerly under the control of the School Board, which has certainly forfeited all title to the control of it, as it has neither provided the building to house it nor the money to defray the current expenses. Here is the nucleus of a splendid public library. By joining these two collections of books, numbering some 28,000 volumes, and placing them in a proper building, the city will own the beginnings of a magnificent public library. The duplicate volumes could be exchanged or sold, and the money thus obtained could be wisely expended in the purchase of new books. A competent and progressive librarian who thoroughly understands his business could catalogue the books properly and introduce the latest improvements in library science. There should be a magazine and newspaper room, and also a free circulating department where responsible persons could draw books to read at home. No person should be admitted to the free circulating department unless he or she brought a certificate signed by a property owner, testifying to the upright character of the applicant. Perhaps in time some philanthropist would donate a sufficient sum of money to build a handsome library; but it is best to have a poor building filled with good books than a fine building filled with poor books. In time donations and bequests would fall to this library, and it would grow larger and more prosperous with the coming years.

Should this dream of a future free public library ever be realized, the Howard Library proposes then to adopt a more elevated plan of work. It will abandon all juvenile books, all lower grades of romance, and books of an ephemeral nature and will become a higher reference-library, containing only books of sterling worth and rare and expensive editions. No novels that are not classics will be found on its shelves; but the sciences, technical works, volumes on art, encyclopædias, dictionaries, and books of reference suitable for higher students will be made a specialty.

The Howard Library desires also to collect every book that has ever been written by a Louisianian, native born or citizen by adoption, and also a complete list of histories relating to the State, and especially to the colonial period. It would be a graceful compliment should all Louisiana authors present copies of their works to the Howard Library with autograph inscriptions.

LIBRARY THIEVES.

From the London Graphic, May 23.

A MAN was recently brought up at Liverpool, charged with the theft of a number of plates and a quantity of letterpress from books in the public library there, and his solicitor, in defence, pleaded that his client "had always been of a literary turn." All the more reason, one would imagine, why he should have treated them with reverence; but it is curious that the ranks of library thieves have been almost entirely made up of book-lovers and literary men—men in whom the love of books has been so strong as to amount almost to a mania. The fact is, that expansive and capacious though the net of the professional burglar is, books are not fish to him; and such a case as that which occurred at Rome in 1882, when an expeditious and knowing rascal stole a valuable manuscript of the "De Consolatione" of Boethius from the Vatican, and sold it within a few hours to another library in the same city, is most uncommon. This was literary larceny in its most perfect stage, and one cannot help thinking that the man who committed it—who knew the value of a Boethius—was born for better things. Were a few of his brethren like him, his method of earning a livelihood would flourish more, no doubt; but they are not, and to this circumstance it is owing that library thefts have been comparatively few, and that of these few the greater number have been perpetrated by men with a knowledge of the value of rare books.

We possess no certain information concerning the book-stealers of antiquity, but doubtless they existed, and among the long-bearded and hungry philosophers who paraded the galleries of Lucretius to talk about literature and philosophy, there were probably many who either from a love of learning or from a desire to convert them into cash "lifted" casual volumes from their places and hid them under the folds of their long tunics. But this is mere conjecture. Lucretius himself was a book-thief in a large way. He appropriated the library of Perseus, King of Macedonia, after conquering that monarch. The Ptolemies, who established the famous library of Alexandria, were all most unscrupulous as to the means they adopted to obtain possession of any books. Xerxes stole the library of Pisistratus; Seleucus stole it from him; and Sylla stole it from him again. Mark Antony took possession of the Pergamean collection, which had been marvellously enriched by Attalus, and presented the whole 200,000 to Cleopatra. But these thefts are to be regarded as spoils of war, and, being done on a magnificent scale, are called by the latter name and extort our admiration. They are thefts, nevertheless.

A good variety of the genus *fur librorum* was Ayman, who cut 15 leaves out of Charles the Bold's famous Bible of St. Denis. Of these 15 only 2 were subsequently recovered, and the remaining 13 now figure among the Harleian mass. in the British Museum. Pinelli is another good specimen. He is said to have obtained the greater number of his priceless literary curiosities by the itch for filching which he felt

in his fingers; and Monsignor Pamphili, who afterwards became Pope, was actually caught by Du Monstier in the very act of slipping that collector's copy of the London edition of the "Histoire du Concile de Trent" under his robe, and was summarily ejected. Dr. More, Bishop of Ely, was charged with enriching his library by plundering those of the clergymen of his diocese. It was a friend of this prelate who, caught by another in the act of putting under lock and key a rare work, explained in justification of the action that the Bishop of Ely was coming to visit him that day, and he had to take precautions. Sir Thomas Bodley, to whom the famous library owes its existence, had an equally bad reputation; thus Sir Robert South, when arranging a meeting between him and Sir Robert Cotton, felt constrained to warn the latter not to leave any valuable book of portable size within the other's reach. Cotton himself was no better, and under pretence of verifying certain statements once got hold of a number of public papers, and all the strenuous efforts of the custodian failed to obtain them again. This delinquency of his was neither forgiven nor forgotten, and when Asgarde, the Keeper of the Exchequer Rolls, died suddenly the Keeper of His Majesty's Papers and Records wrote to Sir Ralph Winwood to say that, if not anticipated by a prohibitory warrant, Cotton would inevitably seize upon all the deceased official's papers and appropriate them. State documents, indeed, have proved excellent and easy loot, thanks to the lax supervision exercised over them in the past. Lords Carew and Suffolk under James I.; Milton, Bradshaw, Thurloe, and scores of others under the Commonwealth; Lords Cherbury and St. Albans under Anne; and Lords Shelburne and Egremont and General Conway under George II.—all these men helped themselves freely. Bradshaw's papers were afterward recovered; and some of Thurloe's were burned at the Restoration, and the others hidden in a secret closet in his house, whence they were rescued many years after. Lords Cherbury and St. Albans "cribbed" Henry VIII.'s papers; and the three last-mentioned men in the list abstracted some bundles of foreign papers, the records of Martin Frobisher's voyages, and many more.

Ecclesiastical establishments and cathedral libraries have suffered from the same lax supervision or from the downright dishonesty of their keepers. Many of the French monastic libraries—libraries which took centuries to accumulate, and which contained some priceless works—were completely despoiled during the great revolution of 1789. One of the greatest sufferers in this respect in our country has been Lincoln, which is now "bibliographically famous for what it does not possess, and which had the misfortune to attract that blood-sucking bibliophile Thomas Froggall Dibdin, who," says Mr. E. Edwards, "was so proud of his booty that he took pains to commemorate the transaction, as well as to turn it to profit," the commemoration being in the shape of a little volume to which he gave the title "The Lincoln Nosegay." The depletion of the old library had begun long before Dibdin's day, however, for the vergers and choir-boys had

from time immemorial been in the habit of cutting illuminations out of manuscripts and old books for sale to visitors.

The present writer is assured by an eminent librarian that the practice of book-stealing and book-mutilation is a much more extensive one than outsiders are aware of. In the British Museum, he said (and from his position he is entitled to speak with authority), such things are constantly occurring, though the offenders are seldom punished save by expulsion from the library. The same gentleman added that in America ten times more volumes are stolen and mutilated than in any English institution of the kind, the reason being that there they will have no restriction whatever.

M. R. D.

THE CHANGE IN READING HABITS— ONE EXPLANATION.

From the St. Louis Republic, June 19.

In the St. Louis Public Library the proportion of books of fiction drawn for home reading has fallen from 62 per cent., to only 52 per cent. This decrease of 10 per cent. is phenomenal, more so because within the time in which it has taken place much has been done to popularize the library and encourage its use by those who, supposedly, read least. In the same time the percentage of cyclopedias and magazines used in the reference department has increased from 5.11 to 15.41 of the books drawn, and there has also been an increase of nearly 7 per cent. in the ratio of books on social science drawn in the total.

We are unable to imagine any explanation for this other than that of the great change which has taken place in newspapers during the last ten years. Nothing is more calculated to suggest and stimulate thought than the great modern morning newspaper. In the nature of things it can seldom exhaust a subject or attempt to do it in any one article, but those who read any metropolitan morning newspaper regularly for a year will have suggested to them thought on every subject with which the human mind has concerned itself. The casual reader who, when newspapers did not circulate, read only fiction, is thus continually reminded of how many things there are of more real interest than the most interesting book of fiction ever written. And as the work of the newspaper is less to think for others than to make others think, they are thus driven to find out more of what has been going on and of what is now going on in the world. In this generation the young man who has learned to "read, write, and cipher" in the common schools is an oaf and a dullard indeed, on whom effort would be thrown away, if he cannot continue his education with the newspapers continually reminding him of what he ought to know, and suggesting new lines of thought to him in every issue, while the great libraries are open to him to follow them out, and while books for home study, if he desires to own them, as he should, are so cheap that those who will not own them do not deserve them.

THE ILLINOIS STATE HISTORICAL LIBRARY.

The Illinois State Historical Library, which has been in existence for barely three years, has during that time gathered together a collection of nearly 3000 volumes relating to the history of the State from the earliest to the present times, and has made for itself a worthy record among other State libraries. The library was incorporated by act of the 36th General Assembly in 1889, which provided for its establishment in an ante room of the State Library building, under the control and management of three trustees appointed by the Governor, with the consent of the Senate, for a term of two years. The trustees receive no compensation beyond their actual expenses while engaged in their official duties; they are authorized to make all necessary rules and regulations for the conduct of the library, and to procure books, pamphlets, manuscripts, monographs, etc., relating to the political, physical, religious, or social history of the State from the earliest period. The library appropriation is fixed at \$25,000 yearly. Since its organization the office of Librarian has been filled by Miss Josephine Cleveland, whose intelligent and efficient work has done much to advance the interests of the library.

The trustees appointed by the Governor were H. Baker, E. F. Leonard, and Rev. Arthur Edwards. Their first meeting was held on November 25, 1889, when H. W. Beckwith was elected President; E. F. Leonard, Secretary, and Miss Cleveland, Librarian. In December, 1890, the library contained 1450 volumes and pamphlets; in December, 1891, the number had grown to 2805, and at the present date there are 2955 on the shelves. Many of the works are rare and were printed in the early days, from 1700 to date, and as the selections are perfectly confined to the annals of Illinois, the varied history of the State is consecutively recorded: first as a Spanish province, then under French régime, later as an English possession, and lastly under American rule; Illinois as the most western county of Virginia, as Northwest Territory, as Indian Territory, as Illinois Territory, and finally as a State in 1818. The library possesses a fine collection of maps dating from 1600, the nucleus of a valuable picture gallery and a collection of books on the Mormon question, among which is the original Bible Book of Mormon, printed in Palmyra in 1830; there is also a large sandstone capital from one of the columns of the ruined Mormon temple at Nauvoo, about 5 x 5 x 4 ft. in diameter. It is expected to add soon to the library translations of the reports in the French archives, which will aid in clearing many doubtful questions of Illinois history. The library contains a fine Lincoln collection and a fair collection of memorials of Grant and Logan. It is the belief of all connected with the library that it will in time become a depository of State history of which Illinois may be proud, but "Rome was not built in a day." The library has proved its value in its three years' existence, and its development, under judicious and energetic management, is only a matter of time.

READING.

SIR EDWARD CLARKE and Professor Hales of King's College have lately been expressing their views on books and reading, and some of their hints may prove useful. Professor Hales addresses himself more especially to students, while Sir Edward Clarke has the great public, the mass of mankind, in view. Professor Hales believes, of course, in deep reading: "Go deeply into one subject, and keep up a large and catholic interest in many others," he says. This is the ideal kind of reading, the reading that will make the full man, as Bacon said. And to such as can afford this deep and catholic study Prof. Hales gives a choice of four systems. The first is to take a particular book and master it; the second a particular author; the third a particular period; the fourth a particular subject. He himself finds the third most helpful. Sir Edward Clarke is less methodical and more popular. He simply says, "Read, and read novels." As novels have lately been getting rather into disrepute, we are glad to have his authority. He thinks boys may well begin their reading with the "Arabian Nights" and "Gulliver's Travels," and then proceed to Scott, Kingsley, and Dickens. There are more modern writers of romance who might be safely recommended. But doubtless they will become classic in time. — *Publishers' Circular.*

OMAHA (NEB.) PUBLIC LIBRARY
BUILDING.

The committee appointed by the Public Library Board to stipulate with the firm of Walker & Kimball for the building of the new public library has made satisfactory arrangements with the firm, and their plans are practically accepted. In architecture, the prevailing style of the new library will be Italian Renaissance. It will be three stories in height and built of pressed brick. The basement will be devoted to a storage-room 31 x 61, an unpacking-room 15 x 23, and a bindery 15 x 30. The heating apparatus is provided for on the west in a room 23 x 31, in addition to a periodical-room, and closets and cloak-rooms for the employees. The entrance is finely proportioned, there being a vestibule 30 x 64, opening into a handsome entrance-hall 30 x 23, on either side of which are stairways leading to the floors above, and also elevator wells. Upon the first floor is the reference-room, 37 x 47, a cataloguing-room 24 x 27, a room for the librarian, provided with lockers, etc., 16 x 24. The delivery-room opens into the entrance-hall, while on the north is the book-room, 47 x 61.6.

The second story is planned upon almost similar lines as the first story, the Byron Reed collection being provided for in a room 30 x 42 on the northeast corner, with a fire-proof steel vault for the color collection and rare autographs. Back of this room is a lecture-room 31 x 30; immediately adjoining is a room for public documents 16 x 24, which will possibly be merged into the lecture-room. Then comes a ladies' reading-room 24 x 30, and a fine large reading-room 47 x 63. The third floor is lighted from a sky-

light extending over half the surface and by windows on all sides. There is space for a water-color and print-room 30 x 47, an art-room 30 x 31, an apartment for an Indian collection 15 x 24. Back of the entrance there is the sculpture-room 30 x 30, a room for the directors, an apartment for oils, and an unassigned room 30 x 47. It will be the endeavor of the directors to keep the cost of the building within \$85,000, and the architect has been asked to go on record to that effect. Working plans will be made at once, and it is the hope of the Library Board to be able to occupy the building by January 1 next.

LIBRARIES FOR ADVERTISING
PURPOSES.

On the extreme left of the façade front of the new building of the Boston Public Library, the following words, the first letters of which form the acrostic McKim, Mead, White (architects of the structure), have been chiselled in three of the big tablets:

MOSES	WREN
CICERO	HERRICK
KALIDASA	IRVING
ISOCRATES	TITIAN
MILTON	ERASMUS

MOZART
EUCLID
ÆSCHYLUS
DANTE

The incongruity of the grouping as to both the character and era of the persons named, and the fact that three of the names, Dante, Milton, and Titian, appear on the other tablets and in their proper places, are proof that the acrostic was intentional.

A representative of the architects says he can assign no reason for it except that it was a "prank of some of the boys in the office." The trustees in interviews treated the matter as a joke, but at a meeting at which all were present they voted unanimously to have the names forming the acrostic obliterated. The chiselling in the blocks is not deep, and the objectionable lettering can be removed without marring the appearance of the building.

A correspondent of the *Transcript* suggested improving on the idea and largely defraying the cost of the building by displaying, after making a suitable agreement with the person concerned, the following inscription (not having the paper at hand we have substituted other names):

PERICLES	SUETONIUS
EUKRIPIDES	OVIDIUS
ARCHIMEDES	ANSONIUS
RAMESSES	PROPERTIUS
SOCRATES	

American Library Association.

WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION COMMITTEE—REPORT OF PROGRESS.

THE following plan for the selection of books for the A. L. A. library is in operation.

1. Check list prepared of 5000 books common to a few public libraries.

2. Mimeographed lists of the same sent out in sections to 40 or 50 librarians of public libraries for their approval, criticism, and notes of additions.

3. Lists with tabulated votes submitted to selection committee for final decision.

Miss Louisa S. Cutler, formerly librarian of the Aguilar Library, New York City, has been engaged by the Bureau of Education to take charge of the work.

A circular, naming committees and stating plans, will be printed at an early date for general distribution.

Library Clubs.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA LIBRARY CLUB.

THE Southern California Library Club held its regular meeting in the Los Angeles Public Library Thursday evening, June 2. President T. L. Kelso in the chair.

There were present visiting members of the faculties of the Normal and High Schools, beside an unusually large attendance of the members of the club.

On account of the recent lecture on University Extension given in Los Angeles by the President of the University of California, and the prospect of the formation of regular classes, the subject was Public Libraries in Relation to University Extension.

Miss Adelaide Hasse, after reviewing the movement in different countries, said:

"Considering the lecture system of University Extension in the nature of field work, we are justified in speaking of libraries as the laboratories of the movement.

"At Columbia College there is an interesting and suggestive phase of library co-operation with the seminary method of work. There is, for instance, a special librarian of historical and political sciences who gives an annual course of lectures upon the bibliography of his department. . . . At Columbia it is clearly recognized that a well-classified, well-administered library is the corner-stone of the coming university.

"It remains for American libraries to popularize the seminary method, set apart special rooms where classes and clubs can meet under competent direction, convert the library into a popular laboratory. This idea has been evolved in various places, notably in Worcester, under the able management of Mr. S. S. Green, and in Providence by W. E. Foster. . . .

"The thought of higher education for the people through libraries is in the air, and sooner or later it will find lodgment in all our great cities and towns. There should be in every great com-

munity organized instruction for non-university classes, mechanics, artisans, and working classes in general, and it is in the power of the public library to carry this instruction among the people by proper organization. The practical and energetic administration of American libraries will yet work out good things for the benefit of American students."

An interesting discussion followed the reading of the paper as to the possibility of making the University Extension movement successful in America, where we have no lecture class of "college fellows," who are able to give their entire time to the lecture field, and the work must devolve upon our already overworked college professors, and especially in California, where the distances are so great between the seats of learning and the cities where the classes are to be formed. The club, however, voted unanimously to give University Extension its hearty co-operation and a fair trial.

The report on "Accounts with books and borrowers," by Miss L. B. Fenner, proved highly interesting and instructive, especially to those members of the club whose knowledge of charging systems began and ended with those in use in the Los Angeles Public Library. Miss Fenner reviewed all of the known systems, from the bean and baggage check to the elaborate double entry in use in the Milwaukee P. L. She showed the advantages of the double-entry system over that of the single account with the books, in checking itself, giving at any time the number of books out, by whom taken, where last used, etc., illustrating the same with all of the cards necessary to its successful operation. It was a practical demonstration of the impossibility of using such a system in a library circulating, as the Los Angeles Public does, an average of 30,000 books per month.

The system of registration in this library was compared with those in use in other cities, and the subject of re-registration was mentioned as one of the problems, hard to be solved, in library economy. To do away with this laborious and expensive method, the suggestion was made to compare the current charging-slips with the borrowers' index, and those not drawing books for a certain period of time to be marked *dead*. Thus the live membership could be accurately ascertained with little trouble to the librarian and no annoyance to the borrower.

The club voted to discontinue its meetings through the summer months, owing to the absence of many of its members at the sea-shore and other resorts.

ESTELLE HAINES, Secretary.

Library Economy and History.

Allegheny (Pa.) Carnegie F. L. (ad rpt.) Added 7351; total 15,840, not including 3000 v. of the Phipps collection not yet entered. Total issue 97,012; home use (to Jan. 16) 73,645; (fict. and juv. 89.54 %); lib. use (to Jan. 16) 7028 (fict. and juv. 60.27 %). Av. weekly circulation 2500; av. daily issue, home use 316; home and lib. use 342. Total no. registered readers 5680.

About 300 v. in French have been added to the library and meet with a fair demand; the 500 German books, however, are in constant request, and a much larger number is needed. During the year the city has expended for books \$16,245.71. Several thousand v. of back numbers of periodicals are waiting to be bound. No books have as yet been withdrawn as being worn out, as "it has seemed economy to rebind books that are much used as soon as they begin to get 'shaky.' Popular books can be resewed in the old covers at an average cost of 30 cents per v., and the book thus repaired is really more serviceable than when received from the publisher."

By far the most important gift the library received during the year was \$10,000 from H. Phipps, Jr., for the purchase of scientific books. These were selected by a commission named by Mr. Phipps, and two-thirds of the volumes are now in process of cataloging.

The need of a suitable reference-room became very apparent during the year, and alterations are now being made for the purpose of furnishing this desired addition.

In the reading-room 314 periodicals are taken. No record of use is kept. The total no. of visitors was 107,366, and the quarters are already overcrowded. The expense of keeping the reading-room open on Sunday from 1 to 10 p.m. was assumed by Mr. Phipps for a period of three years. Total Sunday attendance for the year 14,262. "The Sunday attendance has generally been a little in excess of that of any weekday except Saturday, reaching on some days almost 500 persons. The attendance is confined chiefly to young men from factories and workshops, who seem to be glad to avail themselves of the advantages thus afforded for self-improvement. No cases of disorder have ever occurred."

Finding-lists of the more popular part of the library have been printed, and the librarian is of the opinion that they are most essential, as the typewritten lists are inadequate to meet popular demands.

Librarian Stevenson pays the following compliment to his staff:

"Not one of the 8 assistants had had any library experience whatever when the library opened. The library was opened under many discouraging circumstances. The public was eager for books and did not take kindly at first to the system of non-access to the shelves. The collection of popular books was at first small, and there were scarcely any duplicates. These facts made the work of the attendants in the library particularly trying; but the uniform courtesy with which they met the public, and the patience and enthusiasm they brought to their task soon made the new system of book delivery popular, and deservedly made for them many friends."

The report concludes (p. 21) with a comparative table compiled from the public library reports of several representative cities, giving statistics of population, no. v. in library, no. readers registered, and no. v. issued for home use.

Bridgeport (Conn.) P. L. (11th rpt.) Added 3533; lost and paid for 5; total 21,756; home use 99,667; ref. use 15,883; total issue 115,550; Sunday attendance 9460; new members 1198; total registration 14,320.

The financial condition of the library is also good. The balance on hand June 1, 1892, was \$9500.41, an increase over last year's savings of \$400.56.

Butte, Mont. Active steps are being taken toward the organization of the new free public library. The amount of money now in the literary fund exceeds \$21,000, which is to be used solely for the purchase of books. All other expenses are to be paid by the city; these are roughly estimated for the first year at about \$15,000. Mr. J. F. Davies, formerly of the St. Louis Public Library, has been engaged as librarian for a year by the library committee.

Cambridge (Mass.) P. L. VAN BRUNT & HOWE, architects. Heliotype. (In American archt., June 11.)

Cornell Univ. L. CORNELL UNIVERSITY. Exercises at the opening of the library building, containing a description of the building; the address of the Hon. H. W. Sage, presenting the building and its endowment; the address of ex President Andrew D. White, presenting the White library of history and political science; the addresses of acceptance by President Adams and Librarian Harris, with the addresses of President D. C. Gilman, of Johns Hopkins University, and Professor Moses Coit Tyler, Oct. 7, 1891. Ithaca, N. Y., The University, 1891. 56 p. l. Q. 15 illustr.

Evanston (Ill.) F. P. L. Added 628; total 10,102; withdrawn 46; lost and paid for 1; issued 31,260 (fict. and juv. 25,901), an increase of 2949 over last year's circulation; total membership 1432 as against 1209 in 1891; receipts \$2912.68; expenses \$2905.80.

"For ten years past it has been the purpose of the directors of the library to so husband the library fund as to retain a sufficient sum to purchase desirable books when offered at a bargain for cash, and also to provide for emergencies, such as moving the library, as was done in 1885 at an expense of about \$800. A similar emergency will arise when the contemplated library rooms in the city hall are in a condition for occupancy, and at an estimated expense of about \$1200, which will leave a balance in the library fund no more than sufficient to pay the increased expenses of the library, when open daily, until replenished by the collection of the library tax of 1892."

Fall River (Mass.) P. L. A new catalogue is now in preparation which will include all books added from January, 1889, to April, 1892. As an appendix there will be a special classification of books in the French language. This classification is designed to stimulate interest in the library among the French-Canadian element of the population.

Harrisburg (Pa.) P. L. A. Plans for a new library building have been completed by archtcts Lloyd & Foose, and work on the structure will soon be begun. It is proposed to lease the building to the association at a nominal rental until a suitable and permanent building can be erected.

Lincoln (Neb.) City L. Added 938; lost and paid for 20; total 9552; home use 73,591 (fict. 80%); ref. use 7523. Visitors to reading-room 63,460; av. daily circulation 237, as against 167

for the previous year. New members during the year 1869; total membership 5600.

"The library has now reached a point where it must either have increased financial support or go backward and fail to meet the demands of the people of the city. A year ago the surplus in the hands of the city treasurer, which had been decreasing for several years, was still upward of \$1000 in excess of immediate needs. This has now been exhausted, and there is danger that the money now in the treasury, together with the collections between now and January, 1893, will not be sufficient to meet current expenses. These have been kept at a minimum and cannot be reduced. We cannot get along with less expense for salary, lights, stationery, binding, and general incidentals unless people will stop using the library. This they will be compelled to do to a greater or less extent in the future unless we are furnished with means to supply their wants."

To meet expenses the board urges that the three-fourth mill library tax be increased to one mill as soon as practicable.

"This was formerly the levy in this city and is now the rate in Omaha and other cities maintaining a free public library. We have hardly kept pace with them relatively heretofore; we certainly cannot maintain even the progress which we have made unless our resources are increased."

Los Angeles (Cal.) P. L. Dec. 1, 1891, to June 1, 1892; added 2806; total 27,946; home use 115,054; library use 46,314; population 50,394.

Milford, N. H. The dedicatory exercises of the new library building were held on June 28 in the town hall.

Minneapolis (Minn.) P. L. There has recently been considerable mutilations of books in the library. Within three weeks a number of leaves, containing valuable maps, have been cut bodily from one of the big atlases and carried away. Another atlas has been mutilated in a similar way, and other reference-books have shared a kindred fate.

"Our shelves are very free to all who care to go to them," one of the library officials is quoted as saying, "and while we have known all the time that this freedom is attended by a certain danger, we have hoped that in our case the danger might be averted. What the result will be if this vandalism continues it is difficult to say." Users of the library are recommended to do a little police work on their own account, as far as possible. The mutilations have usually taken place on Saturday night, the busiest night of the week, when all the help is busy at the counters.

New Bedford (Mass.) Free P. L. Added 2146; total not stated; issued 88,600 (9694 more than in 1890); average Sunday attendance 26.

New York. Harlem L. On July 1 the work of removing the library to its new building was begun. The old building, which have been the home of the library for the last 65 years, has been disposed of for \$60,000, and it is hoped that within six weeks the books will be ready for

issue from the new quarters. For the convenience of subscribers 5 books were allowed on each ticket, which may be retained until September 7. The date set for the reopening of the library is August 15, when the doors will be open from 9 a.m. until noon, and from 1 p.m. to 6. After September 1 the building will be open from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. There have been recently added a large number of new volumes, and the whole library has been recatalogued.

Northwestern Univ. L., Evanston, Ill. Added 682; total 25,000 v., 10,000 pm.; issued 1792. Mr. Orrington Lunt has promised \$50,000 as the nucleus of a fund for a fire-proof library building; \$13,000 more have been promised by others, part of it conditioned on raising the amount to \$100,000. "The library building should be one of the finest structures on the grounds, as it will be the centre of the life of the university, and will contain the most valuable of the university collections."

Quincy, Mass. Thomas Crane P. L. (21st rpt.) Added 733; pamphlets 108; new members 580; total registration 10,379; circulated 67,123 (fact. 35.1%).

The total number of volumes circulated increased 1566, or about 2.5%, almost wholly in that portion of the circulation which goes out from the library proper; there was a slight falling off in fiction (775 v.) and a considerable increase in periodicals (229).

With a view to further developing the circulation among the schools "the trustees caused during the last year a classified list of books for young people to be prepared and published in the form of a book of 80 pages in October last, the cost of printing which was defrayed from the accumulation of the catalogue fund. Copies have been offered for sale at the price of 10 cents each. Other copies have been placed in the hands of the teachers of the several schools, so that they can be accessible to all scholars."

Richmond (Ind.) P. L. Mrs. Caroline Reeves has given \$30,000 to the library, the money to be used in the purchase of new books and in remodelling and improving the building.

Rochester, N. Y. Mortimer Fabritius Reynolds, founder of the Reynolds Public Library, died on June 13 at his home in Rochester. He was born Dec. 2, 1814, and was the first child of white parentage born on "The Hundred Acre Tract," comprising the original site of Rochester. He was a permanent resident of that city all his life, and did much for its advancement. He gave the Reynolds Laboratory to the University of Rochester, and in 1883 took the first step towards founding the Reynolds Library, which was incorporated in 1884. He left property valued at \$500,000 for the maintenance of the library.

Saco, Me. Mrs. J. C. Bradbury will give to the city a new building for the Dyer Library as a memorial of her husband. The site has been purchased, and the plans of the building have been prepared by Architect H. G. Wadlin, of Boston. The structure will have a capacity of 16,000 v., which may be increased if necessary in the future. The estimated cost is about \$12,000.

St. Louis (Mo.) P. L. Added 3288 (fict. and juv. 966); total about 79,000; lib. use 77,918, home use 121,970; use of periodicals 110,330; Sunday issue, lib. 6507, reading-room 7789. Within the last few years there has been a remarkable growth of interest in social and political science. A table is given of the issue of 22 periodicals varying from *Harper's weekly* 5515 times to *Revue des Deux Mondes* 522. 19 pages are devoted by the librarian to setting forth the relations of the library to the intellectual relations of the city under the head (1) the library and clubs, in which the programs of two clubs are given; (2) the library as a bureau of information, with a list of 20 reference lists furnished, two pages of books or articles wanted, and two pages of questions asked; (3) the library and the schools, with a most interesting account by Mr. O. M. Wood of an experiment tried in a colored school of a weekly reading-club in connection with the library. Then follows an appeal for aid to the "Technological collection," and a discussion of the question, Shall the library be free? which is strongly urged.

Springfield (Mass.) City L. Assoc. (31st rpt.) Added 3590 (fict. 323); pamphlets 1425; total 79,575; number cardholders 14,727. Home use 137,731 (fict. 65,519); Sunday issue 1330. On all cards 17,219 persons have applied for books and 28,949 v. have been issued; these figures are for books furnished by the librarians, and do not include such dictionaries, encyclopedias, etc., as are accessible to readers. The reading-room has been open to the public 314 week-days and 52 Sundays; total number of readers 40,554; readers of magazines and reviews 17,246; magazines and reviews given out 34,219; no record of newspaper use is kept; average weekday attendance 117; average Sunday attendance 71.

"The increase in the number of visitors [to the reading room] was 7321 [over last year]; in the readers of magazines and reviews 4307; in the number of magazines and reviews given out 8643."

The library is rapidly becoming a valuable library of reference. "Our efforts to build up this department are highly appreciated by our citizens, as the statistics for hall use will show. The various organizations in our city for literary and scientific study, our clergymen and physicians, students in special departments of learning, workmen endeavoring to perfect their knowledge in their several trades and industries, and the pupils in our schools—all these are found daily prosecuting their inquiries, and availing themselves of the advantages which are here afforded. Moreover, during the year we have had visitors from other cities and States who have spent months in this city in special study, attracted by the extent of our resources in certain departments of knowledge, and by the facilities which they found here for carrying on their work."

The *Library Bulletin*, issued monthly by the library authorities, contains a classified list of accessions, statistics of monthly use, critical notices of books, information as to the library, and miscellaneous reading.

In regard to the work done by the library

among the schools an interesting communication from one of the instructors in the high school is printed, in which strong testimony is given as to the value and importance of the "laboratory method" in all branches and grades of study. "The guiding principle of this method is that the pupil should, as far as possible, gather his facts from the original sources in nature and books, and compile these facts through his own efforts. Teachers who have followed the system are enthusiastic in its praise. They find that their pupils enter on their work with a zeal and interest that the best text-books failed to awaken. The children quickly catch the spirit of the investigator, the spirit of the seeker after truth, and thus become students in the best sense of the word. The laboratory method owes a large measure of its success in our city school system to the courtesy of the library officials, and to the excellent judgment shown in the equipment of the institution for this research work."

Librarian Rice devotes some space to a discussion of the proposed new library building and its necessity, both as regards the present library and the promised bequest of G. W. V. Smith. Since the number of volumes has increased to nearly 80,000, the quarters now occupied are cramped and crowded. "The architect of this building planned it for 75,000 volumes, and we have been compelled already to mar somewhat the symmetry and beauty of his plan by the addition of cases between the alcoves. In the number and value of its books, in the amount annually expended for additions, in the extent and variety of reading which it actually furnishes—this library of our semi rural city ranks among the large institutions of its character in our country; for in all the varied lines of its equipment for reading and study it has distanced the libraries of almost all our smaller cities.

"This increase has rendered the quarters that were so spacious and commodious when the building was erected narrow and contracted for our present accommodation. Nor does this increase alone express our need of enlargement; for while the library has grown more and more crowded, new fields of usefulness have been opening for the institution, and the cultivation of these fields is presented to us as an imperative duty."

Springfield (O.) Warder P. L. Added 881; total 13,951; issued 82,278 (fict. 61,877).

Stockton (Cal.) F. L. (11th rpt.) Added 2192 (donated 1565); total 14,447; lost 40; worn out 87; bound 803; total issue 60,710 (fict. and juv. 63.2 %); new cards issued 851; total registration 7975; receipts \$7064.25; expenses \$5731.54.

"The report discloses the fact that the library and reading-room have increased patronage and that gifts and donations of books have been larger than ever before. It also shows a greater loss in books than on any previous year. With a view of giving the largest accommodation possible to the public the board have allowed free access to the shelves. Up to the present time this has been done with trifling loss."

In order to guard against future losses the trustees call attention to "Section 12 of 'An act to establish free public libraries and reading-

rooms,' Statutes of the State of California, which intrusts city councils to pass ordinances for the protection and management of public libraries. While the board is empowered to make rules, the only sanction given to the same is the authority to enforce them by cutting off the privileges of the library, and by pecuniary fines. Possibly an ordinance making it incumbent upon all persons who are in unauthorized possession of library books to return the same at once might secure a better service of the rules and protect the public property. The rules of the library require that borrowers of books sign an obligation to return them. For the purpose of extending the benefits of the library to all classes a large freedom has been given to borrowers. But if the borrower and his guarantor are both without property and refuse to return books, or if by some accident the book falls into possession of a third person, no adequate and summary remedy exists to enforce their return to the library. Up to the present time there has been but little loss or violation of rules. The loss referred to above possibly indicates that there may be necessity for more care or vigilance on the part of those who have the public interest to protect."

Taunton (Mass.) P. L. (26th rpt.) Added 2106; total 34,630; issued 58,867 (an increase of 1738; fiction 48,073).

United States. GILMAN, Daniel C. Development of the public library in America; an address at the opening of the Cornell University Library, Oct. 7, 1891. Ithaca, The Univ., 1891. 13 p. 4°.

Washington, D. C. U. S. Naval Observatory L. Added 559; total 13,202.

FOREIGN.

Bruges, Belgium. ENTRANCE to the library; Heliotype. (In Amer. architect, June 4, 1892.)

Croydon (Eng.) Ls. (3d rpt.) Stock 23,184; lib. use 255,450; home use 249,351; turnover 11.01; issue of fict. and juv. 82 %.

Italy. CHILOVI, Desiderio. Personale delle biblioteche pubbliche governative d'Italia, 1 Marzo 1892. (Pages 274-276 of *Centralbl. f. Bibl.*, Juni.)

Norwich (Eng.) F. L. Committee. (14th rpt.) Added 1,431, pamphlets 874; total 26,897, pamphlets 4340; issued, all departments, 157,521; issued, excluding juvenile department 92,783 (fict. 71,593).

"The teachers in the elementary schools have (as during the former year) been supplied with books from the juvenile department—now numbering 3773 volumes, the issues for the year having been 58,944.

"The Sunday opening of the reading-rooms has been still appreciated, as evidenced by about the same number of visits (15,000) as shown in the last report."

The Shakespearian Library has received several important and valuable additions during the year.

LIBRARIANS.

DAVIES, J. F., head assistant at the Public Library of St. Louis, has just been appointed librarian of the new Public Library of Butte City, Montana, with a salary of \$2500. This is the fourth assistant that has left the St. Louis Public Library to take charge of important libraries in the last ten years, three of them in the last three years.

LINDERFELT, K. A. The case of K. A. Linderfelt came up for trial in the Milwaukee City Court on July 13. Judge Sloan, in rendering his sentence, said that although the letter of the law called for an imprisonment as punishment for the offence which Mr. Linderfelt committed, yet he could not see what the community of Milwaukee could gain by giving a decision which would strictly be in accordance with the law. In his opinion Mr. Linderfelt had already suffered punishment enough, and will have to suffer the further consequences of his actions. The Judge believed that by suspending the sentence he would do better for the general welfare than if he would imprison the defendant, and for this reason thought it best to suspend the sentence in order to give Linderfelt a chance to become a better man. Linderfelt was entirely broken-down, and he was hardly able to stand up when his friends congratulated him on the decision of Judge Sloan.

RAWLE, Francis, has resigned the position of librarian of the Law Association of Philadelphia, which he has held for sixteen years. At a meeting of the Library Committee a resolution of regret was passed. It said, among other things: "He has given the library such intelligent supervision that from a comparatively insignificant collection of a few thousand books it has grown to about 26,000 volumes, so well selected as to entitle it to the encomium, which has been conferred on it by a competent expert, of being the best working law library in the United States. The thanks of the Association are due to Mr. Rawle for the zeal, thoughtful labor, and devotion to its interest which he has manifested as its librarian."

WALDO, Miss, librarian of the Jackson (Mich.) City L., has been appointed a member of the committee on literature and libraries in connection with the woman's branch of the World's Congress Auxiliary.

Cataloging and Classification.

ASSOCIATION OF THE CITY OF N. Y. LIBRARY Catalogue. N. Y., 1892. 2 l. + 1135 p. O.

Substantially the work of W. J. C. Berry, assisted during the last year by J. Herbert Senter. Catalogues nearly 40,000 vols. In two parts, an author catalogue in large type, with reasonably full titles and with imprints, and a subject index in smaller type, with titles abridged to the utmost.

The HARVARD UNIVERSITY bulletin in its May no. has (pp. 438-458) the first part of "Notes on special collections to be found in the public

libraries of the United States," by W: Coolidge Lane and C: Knowles Bolton.

"The library issued three years ago a circular addressed to the principal libraries of the country, asking for information as to the character and extent of their special collections, and this (geographically alphabetical) list is the result. The first instalment breaks off in New York, and the index, which is the key to the topics of the notes, is yet to come. It should then appear how many foreign (particularly Continental) private libraries have been transferred *en bloc* to our public collections, like Scherer's, at Adelbert College; Van der Meulen's, at the [State Historical Society] of Wisconsin; Beck's, at the Hartford Theological Seminary, Rinck's at the Yale Divinity School, etc. Such a list as this, of which we may expect new editions from time to time, will be an invaluable guide not only to students, but to donors. For example, shall one add to the Birney slavery collection at Johns Hopkins (1000 titles) the May collection at Cornell (1000 volumes and 2000 pamphlets), the Sumner-Higginson collection at Harvard (869 volumes, 2300 titles)? There may be judgment even in giving away old directories. The Directory Library of Boston 'aims to get every directory and gazetteer published in this country,'" — *Nation*.

GOTTWALD, P. *Bened.*, O.S.B. Catalogus codicium manu scriptorum qui asservantur in bibliotheca monasterii O. S. B. Engelbergensis in Helvetia. Freiburg i. Br., Herder, 1892. 17 + 327 p. 8°. 12 m.

The LOS ANGELES P. L. bulletin for April has Reading lists on political economy and on music, California maps, and Southern California library statistics.

MINZES, B. Ueber die Transcription russischer Namen. (Pages 373-381, v. 6 of *Deutsche Zeitschrift für gesch. Wiss.* 1891.)

NEW LONDON, (Conn.) P. L. Finding list, Jan., 1892. N. Y., 1892. 154 p. O. and view.

Printed by the linotype process. Dewey class-list; author-list; fiction title-list.

NEW YORK and Chicago. Limited train via N. Y. Central and Lake Shore railroads. Wagner vestibule train. Catalogue of library. N. Y., [1892?], 10 + [1] p. T.

ROURA, Mig. Reseña de los incunables que posee la Biblioteca pública de Mahon, Palma, 1890. xxx + 184 p. 8°.

The SALEM P. L.'s May bulletin has a note on "Engineering periodicals."

SEAMAN, W: H. The essentials of good education, with a new classification of knowledge. From the Proc. of the Amer. Assoc. for the Adv. of Science, v. 40, 1891. n. p., n. d. 7 p. O.

Divides knowledge into four main divisions: (1) Language (including Music, Drawing, Painting, Sculpture); (2) Mathematics, pure and applied; (3) Chemistry, molecular and atomic (including Mineralogy, Geology, and all that usually goes in Physics, except Astronomy and Me-

chanics, which come in Applied Mathematics); (4) Biology in two parts, Botany and Zoölogy (the latter including History, Psychology, Sociology). It seems to us that the first and third names, Language and Chemistry, are not well chosen for the vast field which they are made to cover. The whole classification is evidently hastily made. Language is as much a part of Zoölogy as Psychology is, and for that matter so are Theology and Metaphysics, and Ethics, and Anthropology, neither of which are mentioned in Prof. Seaman's scheme. He also omits the Useful Arts, all the Fine Arts except three, and Geography, unless he considers the latter to be the same as Topography, which he has under Applied Mathematics. In a word, the scheme, whatever merits it may have as applied to Education, for which it was intended, could be of no use at all as applied to books.

CHANGED TITLES.

Lieutenant Fletcher S. Bassett, U. S. Navy, published in 1885 a work, entitled "Legends and superstitions of the sea and of sailors in all lands and at all times," Chicago, Belford, Clarke & Co., 1885, 8vo. The Navy officer now offers the identical work to the unsuspecting public under the title: "Sea phantoms, or, legends and superstitions of the sea and of sailors in all lands and at all times," revised edition, Chicago, Merrill, Higgins & Co., 1892, 8vo. Although this is stated to be a revised edition, I cannot discover, after close comparison of the two volumes, the slightest change. Apparently the book of 1892 is printed from old plates. The preface is dated March 10, 1884, in both volumes. Please warn librarians and others of this dishonorable attempt to palm off an old unsalable book under a new title.

H. CARRINGTON BOLTON.

"The land of gold, or, three years in California," by Rev. Walter Colton, U. S. N., author of "Ship and shore," etc. New York, D. W. Evans & Co., 1860 [c. 1850]; the same as "Three years in California, with illustrations," New York, Barnes, 1852, except that 2 portraits and the 6 plates in the 1852 do not seem to be in the 1860 edition, at least are not in the copy examined.

T. L. COLE.

"Russian traits and terrors," by E. B. Lanier [pseud.], Tucker, Boston, is announced by Chapman & Hall as "Russian characteristics" in *Athenaeum*, April 16, 1892. The English edition is said to be reprinted from *Fortnightly Rev.*, with revisions. G. E. WIKE, M.D.

FULL NAMES.

W: Rudolph Smith (History of Wisconsin, Madison, 1854, vols. 1 and 3, and Observations on the Wisconsin Territory, Phila., 1838).

T. L. COLE, Washington, D. C.

The following are furnished by Harvard College Library.

Dearborn, J: Jacob (The history of Salisbury, New Hampshire);

Fisher, Gilman Clark (The essentials of geography);

Fishley, E: Eugene (Shakespeare's rule of life); Gordon, Hanford Lennox (The feast of the virgins);

Hyslop, James Hervey (Elements of logic).

Hylton, J: Dunbar (*The sea-king*);
 Makepeace, Frank Barrows (*Fresh bait for fishers of men*);
 Marshall, W: Blanchard (*Beaks of unionide inhabiting the vicinity of Albany, N. Y.*);
 McDonough, J: Joseph (*A plea in behalf of the South and West for deep water at Savannah*);
 Morrison, Gilbert Burnet (*The ventilation and warming of school buildings*);
 Perkins, W: Rufus (*Eleusis*);
 Taylor, Barton Stout (*Helps to a correct understanding of nature, on the basis of realism*);
 Woodward, Brinton Webb (*Old wine in new bottles*).

Bibliography.

CONTADES, G. de. *Bibliographie sportive, les courses de chevaux en France, 1651-1890.* Paris, Rouquette, 1892. 26+157 p. 8°. 6 fr.

DEGEORGE, L. *L'Imprimerie en Europe au 15^e et 16^e siècles.* Paris, Em. Paul, L. Huard & Guillemin, 1892. 8°. 3 fr.

A list of the first works printed in the various cities of Europe.

GUY, W: E. *Pastime reading; a partial list of novels that would probably be called standard by the majority of readers, prepared for the convenience of those who are at a loss for some light but good reading.* n. p., n. d., 17 p. (even pages blank) O.

"Compiler's preference indicated by *. Alphabetically arranged according to authors. Dedicated to the Mercantile Library, St. Louis, Sept. 1, 1891." 248 titles.

JULIAN, Rev. J: *Dictionary of hymnology.* N. Y., Scribner, 1892. 12+1616 p. 8°.

"Comes as near exhausting the bibliography of its subject as could be expected or reasonably desired. It contains a huge mass of information, imperfectly digested, and presented with inadequate regard to proportion, economy, and order. The German part is far ahead of the English in quantity and quality; and the same may be said in a degree of the Latin, which has been committed to several hands. The volume should go into every public library. As a book of reference it has no rivals, and is unlikely to be superseded for a long time to come."—*Nation*, Je. 9, p. 433.

MANNO, ANT. *Bibliografia storica degli stati della monarchia di Savoia.* Volume 4. Torino, fratelli Bocca, 1892. 8+576 p. 8°. With a table.

Bibl. stor. ital., pub. per cura della R. Deput. di Stor. Patria, 3.

MEDINA, J. T. *Bibliografia de la imprenta en Santiago de Chile desde sus origines hasta Feb. de 1817.* Santiago de Chile, 1891. 1+179 p. +6 photolith. f°. 41 pes. (300 copies printed.)

Marcel MONMARCHES' *Etude sur la Sologne,*

Paris, 1892, 8°, 1 fr., has an essai de bibliographie.

POLK, J. *Repertorium der landeskundlicher Literatur der Bukowina.* Chernowitz, H. Pardini, 1892. 41 p. 1. 8°. 1 m.

PASTRNEK, FR. *Bibliographische Uebersicht über die slavische Philologie, 1876-91; zugleich Generalregister zu Archiv Bd. I-14.* Berlin, Weidmann, 1892. 8+415 p. 8°. 15 m.

STERNFELD, ALFR., and KELLNER, C. *Zahnärztliche Bücherkunde. Alphabetischer Theil.* Karlsruhe, C. Kellner, 1892. pp. 1-211. 8°.

INDEXES.

BOOK review index No. 1. London, Owles & Reader, 1891.

JOHOW, R. *Gesammtnregister zu Bd. 1-10 des JAHRBUCHES für Entscheidungen des Kammergerichts in Sachen der nichtstreitigen Gerichtsbarkeit und in Strafsachen, sowie zu den 8 Bändern des JAHRBUCHES für entgültige Entscheidungen der preussischen Appellationsgerichte.* I. Berlin, Frz. Vahlen, 1892. 7+256 p. 8°. 6 m. for 2 Abth.

LE LIVRE moderne table générale 1890-91, dressée par M. Michel Mourlevat. Paris, Feb. 1892. 2 l.+154 p.+1 l. O.

GENERAL Index to the 7th series of NOTES and queries, v. 1-12, 1886-91. London, J: C. Francis, 1892. Sm. 4°. 6s.

SOMMAIRE périodique des revues de droit. Table mensuelle de tous les articles juridiques dans les périodiques belges et étrangers année 2^e. Brux., V° F. Larcier. 1892. 8°.

Anonyms and Pseudonyms.

Estelle Russell. Miss M. Allen Olney, an English lady who has lived in the neighborhood of Lynchburg, Va., since the war of the rebellion, is the author of "Estelle Russell," "Junia: a novel," and "The new Virginians, sketches of life in Virginia."

H. E. G.

Tante Marie, pseud. for Mlle. Marie Augustin in "Le Macandal épisode de l'insurrection des noirs à St. Domingue. Nouv. Orleans, 1892."

"That convention, or, five days a politician, 184 pp. 12°. Ill. by Beard. N. Y., 1872. By F. G. W." The F. G. W. was Fletcher G. Welch, a Chicago speculator in real estate.

A. S. CLARK.

CORRECTION.

MR. C: ALDRICH'S paper on "Iowa library legislation" (LIBRARY JOURNAL, May, p. 163) appeared by inadvertence as by "C: Aldrich, State Librarian." This is an error. The State Librarian of Iowa is Mrs. Mary H. Miller, who has held the position for the last four years.

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